

HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
1989



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THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY
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Presidential Address

To the 114th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society
Adyar, 26 December 1989

As this 114th Annual Convention is about to open, I wish all of you a very happy stay at Adyar and inspiration from participation in this great annual event. Let us turn to Those who have made clear to ordinary people like us the future perfection which is the destiny of every human being. To know that others blossomed into perfection before us, to catch something of the perfume of Their lives, is a great privilege. Let us make ourselves worthy of Their help and blessing.

May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their help and guidance this Society founded to be a channel for Their work. May They inspire it with Their wisdom, strengthen it with Their power and energize it with Their activity.

The Theosophical Society as it is today is largely the creation of Col. H. S. Olcott who from the beginning conceived of a federal structure for the organization. The National Societies or Sections within the larger international body are autonomous. They carry on the work more or less independently, subject to certain provisions in the rules of the international Society. Within the national Societies, the lodges in their turn have freedom to work as they wish, provided they maintain the general character of the Society and fulfil its objectives. Our Society accords to every member complete freedom to think and act as he deems fit, as long as he respects the principle of Universal Brotherhood and does not deliberately act in violation of it. Members are at liberty to believe what they want or not to believe, pursue their own avenues of interest, and search for

truth in their own way. They can affiliate themselves to any other body and take up whatever activity they choose outside our Society. Organizationally the Theosophical Society is loosely knit. The international headquarters and the international officers do not oversee the details of work in the Sections or exercise a direct authority over them.

Colonel Olcott may have been influenced by his American background when he envisaged such a decentralized structure that has happily linked the various units of the Society and at the same time allowed them a large measure of freedom and initiative. The model which he framed has been largely successful, for the Society has held remarkably well together during more than a hundred years. It has proved that unity of aim makes for greater strength than tightness of structure. Centralized,

authoritarian organizations break up and lose their initial momentum and strength, especially after the passing of the original leaders or founders. HPB indicates in *The Key to Theosophy* that organizations such as the Theosophical Society do not continue to be living bodies for more than a hundred years. 'Every such attempt as the Theosophical Society has hitherto ended in failure', she said and pointed out that danger lies in the tendency to establish hard and fast dogmas. History has shown that not only rigidity of mind, but rigidity of structure results in disintegration.

The strength of our Society lies in the fact that while it is decentralized structurally, it is inwardly integrated, it is a living fraternity because of the shared approach to life of its members. The members come to the Society of their own free will and have a common perception of values and a shared acceptance of certain fundamental principles.

These principles have never been promulgated as dogmas to be swallowed without question. They are subjects for discussion, enquiry and realization. The non-dogmatic approach is an essential aspect of the Society's appeal for those who have independent minds and are concerned more with truth than with ideas. The motto, 'There is no Religion Higher than Truth' states succinctly the nature of the ground on which open-minded persons can proceed together towards truth without any embarrassment or barriers.

When each one knows for himself how true and valuable the theosophical principles and fundamentals are he naturally tries to act according to them,

and grow into being a real Theosophist, which means living a life of understanding and even wisdom, and not just paying the dues entitling one to be a member. Though there may be failure from time to time in the practice of brotherhood and the other truths of Theosophy, because a sufficient number of members do endeavour to overcome their prejudices and shortcomings life continues to flow through the Society. In the long run only living ideals and shared objectives can hold such a far-flung organization and community of people together and this is precisely the strength the TS has shown till now.

Members must never lose sight of the fact that every form of freedom involves a corresponding responsibility. History presents pictures of the progress, 'decline and fall' of different kinds of societies—some open, others authoritarian, some allowing 'many flowers to bloom', others demanding rigid conformity. Where authority—whether of State, church or dictator—is strong, people have merely to obey; they are not allowed to make use of, or develop, intelligence and initiative. The authority assigns to itself the responsibility of deciding all important matters, intellectual, ethical and spiritual—what people may need, whether they may have children, and whom they shall believe. In a free regime people are called upon to exercise their intelligence and participate with a sense of responsibility for the whole community; if they do not, progress towards higher levels of culture and knowledge is retarded.

Today we are witnessing the breakdown of several authoritarian societies, since the seeds of disintegration lie within

any system of regimentation. But, stagnation and decay are also inherent in a society where there is a combination of freedom with selfishness. Freedom demands that people should learn to be intelligent in relationship—with other people, other forms of life, with ideas, with everything. It means realizing that the interests of the individual are not different from that of the whole. A strong feeling of responsibility for the well-being of others and for the destiny of the whole must go hand in hand with the privilege of freedom and then only the stability and progress of any society are ensured.

As the Theosophical Society exists for the regeneration of mankind as a whole, each member has a very definite responsibility for working towards the welfare of humanity. His study, thinking and endeavour must proceed in this direction and then only the Society will be truly an instrument for moral progress and the spiritual perfection of mankind. Because the aims of the TS are all-embracing, far-reaching and fundamental, there is more need here than in any other society for intelligence, wisdom and a deep sense of responsibility on the part of those who participate in the work.

We need also to realize that the Society cannot be held together merely by intellectual ideas, for by its very nature the mind fragments what it contacts and deals with. Every religion has broken into sects; many organizations end up in segments. Disputation over non-fundamentals, splintering into factions, schisms of various sorts are inevitable when a group, large or small, has only a set of mental concepts as the common ground. To the extent that Theosophy becomes merely a matter of intellectual comprehension,

gaps will develop in the Society and separate or conflicting groups will exist, each believing that it alone possesses right understanding and not the others.

In a Society where the search for truth is more important than dogmas, where 'free and fearless investigation' is encouraged, where minds are not controlled by authority and conditioned into belief, one must endeavour to proceed beyond the level of ideas to a different type of knowledge, the deep knowledge of the heart. Mind and heart must be open and therefore all tendency towards cultism and dogmatism must end. All psychological barriers must be broken down. Then a deeper level of contact and communication comes into being with mutual respect for each other's search. One begins to hear what Nature herself wants to say, silently from the heart of all beings.

The continued usefulness and integrity of the TS will depend on the ability of the members to communicate at a level where we perceive to some extent each other's essential nature and respect the unique way in which that deeper nature blossoms forth. Truth appears in as many forms as there are perceivers. Hence the ancient saying of the Upanishads: the sages speak in manifold ways of the one truth. Though truth is ever the same, every enlightened person presents it in a new light. It is like a marvellous diamond with an infinite number of colours in its bosom, any combination of which may shine forth at a particular time.

Freedom to search also implies equality of relationship—an equality whose validity is derived from knowing that everyone follows his own unique path of unfoldment. There is no scale to measure

the seeker and classify him as high or low; no question of status, social, economic, academic, or spiritual is relevant here. Therefore, our Society's structure puts all members on an even footing, but it is the responsibility of members to see that an atmosphere of equality is created by their mutual understanding. Equality does not of course mean that everyone can do all things or that each group will do whatever it likes. As we have already said, a body such as the TS—especially because it is a spiritual body—will disintegrate if the majority of members do not possess an intelligent awareness of the Society's aims and direction and act with responsibility in maintaining its character.

So let us seek to make the future of the Society splendid, through our spiritual understanding and relationship at a profound level, for it is more effective than trying to maintain solidarity through structure and outer forms. Colonel Olcott's vision of the Society gave us a structure which has proved its merit, maintaining a fine balance between freedom and cohesion. It is left to us and to future generations of members to breathe into it the spirit of unbreakable unity, altruism and shared spiritual endeavour.

The Indian Section is preparing to celebrate its centenary next year. The General Secretary reports that they plan to mark this occasion by encouraging more serious study of Theosophy, and intensive effort to make it known. The birth centenary of Mr N. Sri Ram, the first Indian to become President of the TS, has focused attention on study of his books. Indian members are keenly aware that his work both as President and prior to that as a member of the Indian Section was an example to all Theosophists. A study

camp held in Varanasi in October was directed by me at the request of the General Secretary. In addition to the themes in Mr Sri Ram's book *The Nature of Our Seeking*, the participants studied and discussed the theosophical viewpoint he presented on various matters of national and international importance. It made everyone present realize that Theosophy can play a role in all fields of human activity and in every situation.

A two-day conference of the Bharata Samaja Association was an event of an unusual kind. This association was formed by Indian Theosophists to simplify complicated Hindu rituals, retaining only the meaningful parts. The Association also seeks to eradicate undesirable and outmoded customs, taking guidance from theosophical teachings. At the heart of the great religions is the Wisdom-Religion that is Theosophy and people must be helped to discover it. The conference held at Adyar attempted to train participants in chanting the mantras and provided talks on the real meaning of the Hindu way of life known as the 'Eternal Religion' or Sanātana Dharma. Various aspects of the Association's work were also discussed.

The Indian Section has had an increase of 205 members. The total number of lodges in the Section is about 350. In addition, there are nearly a hundred centres and groups with less than seven members and therefore not fully qualified to be lodges. Several long-standing workers departed, among them Mrs Mehra Dhalla who was a pillar of the Bombay Theosophical Federation, and a guide and leader to many.

A large number of books were donated by the Section to public libraries. The

headquarters library at Varanasi which contains a very valuable collection of books and periodicals is being re-organized and efforts are being made to preserve the holdings from the ravages of a dusty climate.

The *Indian Theosophist* goes out not only to all the English-speaking members of the Section but to lodges attached directly to the International Headquarters. Besides this magazine, there are several others in the regional languages which have a considerable circulation.

The Banaras Hindu University has instituted, as previously reported, a Dr Annie Besant Memorial Lecture. During the year, this lecture was delivered by Prof P. G. Mavlankar, a grandnephew of Damodar Mavlankar.

A new feature of the work in the American Section was the organization of spiritual retreats. These were held in Olcott, Krotona and other places, as part of the Field Work Programme. In cooperation with the Krotona Centre a curriculum development retreat was also held during which work was done to formulate study guides. 'Theosophy in Brief' leaflets have been distributed in large numbers, offering a first introduction to those who have had no previous contact with Theosophy. These leaflets are being systematically revised to suit the times.

The Section's new magazine *The Quest* has been very well received by the public, and has a circulation of nearly 20,000. The cost of this attractive magazine has been met with help available from the Kern Foundation. *The American Theosophist* is being used for dialogues with the members and to keep them in touch with lodge programmes and other

activities. Efforts are being made to have a more personal touch with the Presidents and Secretaries of the groups affiliated to the Section. In this Section too there has been an increase of membership by 282, bringing it to a total of over 5,500.

The membership in the Canadian Section remains about the same, around 240. The General Secretary has made a call to members to initiate more action.

The Brazilian Section which has nearly 900 members, including several enthusiastic younger ones, has set up a Publishing House which has been legally registered. The first book to be issued was *Thoughts for Aspirants* by N. Sri Ram translated into Portuguese. Till now Portuguese versions of theosophical books were given to commercial houses which benefited from the sale proceeds. TPH Adyar will henceforward restrict translation rights and publication of books in Portuguese to the new TPH in Brazil. Another recent feature is the sale by the Section of not only Portuguese books but also some English and Spanish ones. This enlarges the range of literature available to enquirers and readers. A theosophical newsletter goes out to all the members of the Section.

The Colombian Section is continuing its work at a steady pace. Special importance is given to courses of basic Theosophy where it is reported there is always a good attendance. Emphasis is on themes related to life and the way to face them spiritually. The monthly magazine of the Section *Selección Teosofica* is distributed free and reaches other Spanish-speaking areas also.

Argentina held its summer school near Cordoba and also arranged for the Vice-President of the Section, Mr V. Fiumanio,

to lecture in Paraguay. Two congresses of the Inter-American Federation were held in Argentina when the rules were recast and elections took place.

Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela have small memberships but the members are working ardently to keep the flame of Theosophy alive. In August a national summer school was held in Cochabamba, Bolivia, with an attendance of over forty members. Meetings are held regularly throughout the year. The members in Peru are happy that they are now recognized as a Presidential Agency. A few members have been added to the roll. Regular studies are taking place and every attempt is being made to make the public aware of Theosophy. In Venezuela which is also a Presidential Agency, there are two lodges, both in Caracas. They were happy to receive a visit from Prof. M. A. Charneco, General Secretary of the Puerto Rican Section. All these areas require to be encouraged by visits and help from stronger Sections.

The Mexican Section continues to grow. Now the total number of members is 330. Much credit goes to the dynamism of the General Secretary, Mr Isaac Jauli, and the band of members working with him. Their magazine *Unidad* has increased its circulation. Several seminars and a summer school were held during the year. Initial steps have been taken to start the work of the Theosophical Order of Service, particularly with reference to the protection of the environment. Plans are being made for a Caribbean area seminar to be held in Caracas, Venezuela.

Puerto Rico which works with Mexico in trying to make Theosophy a strong presence in the Caribbean area had

regular programmes in all its five lodges. The roof of the building in San Juan was blown off by a hurricane and reconstruction work has started. The General Secretary again visited the Dominican Republic where we have one lodge attached to the International Headquarters.

The important event in Australia was the fourth Indo-Pacific Conference which was held simultaneously with the Australian Convention at Perth in January this year. Delegates from eight countries in the region participated and the summaries of their talks were printed in the Section journal. Miss Joy Mills was the guest speaker of the year. The Manor Centre was the venue for two one-day seminars which were very successful. A week-long retreat was organized at the Mt Helena Centre near Perth. Work was done towards a training course to prepare theosophical workers. New premises constructed by the Gold Coast Lodge were completed and officially opened in March. The Science Group as well as the Theosophical Order of Service are active in the Section.

The annual convention of the New Zealand Section held at Palmerston North also had Miss Joy Mills as the chief guest. Mr Jack Patterson's booklet *Probing the Mysteries of Existence* has been very much appreciated and is being adapted for use in other countries. Mr Patterson conducted seminars and gave lectures throughout New Zealand. A video studio has been set up at 'Vasanta', the headquarters building in Auckland, as video and audio cassettes are proving to be very popular and a useful means of dissemination. *The Secret Doctrine* (unabridged) was donated to every uni-

versity in New Zealand. The membership of this Section continues to increase and now stands at 1,775.

The Philippine Section has brought out a new magazine modelled after *Reader's Digest* called *Theosophical Digest*. The initial printing of a thousand copies proved so inadequate that the first issue had to go through four more printings, making a total of 8,000 copies. It has apparently the right appeal for the general public, containing carefully selected condensed articles suitable for every type of temperament.

The headquarters building in Manila has been enlarged, enabling both the bookshop and the library to expand. The General Secretary reports that the bookshop is now the largest metaphysical outlet in the country and is expected to increase its activities considerably. The Theosophical Order of Service has been very active in the country and the U.N. Volunteer Programme has assigned two foreign volunteers to help its work.

The General Secretary of the TS in East and Central Africa reports that regular activities have been taking place in all the three countries which are part of the Section. Membership stands around 870. The annual convention was held in Zambia with delegates from that country as well as Kenya and Tanzania. The impact of the lectures by Mr Reuben Thuku, national lecturer, continues to be strong. He has started giving talks to primary schools. The Section headquarters has been regularly importing books and selling them at cost price in order to make theosophical knowledge available even to people with restricted resources. *The Theosophist* is being sent to several libraries and

universities. Articles of theosophical interest have been published at fairly frequent intervals in leading newspapers. Two properties have been donated to the Society in Zambia and the income from them has been very helpful in supporting the work. The Theosophical Order of Service has taken up a variety of schemes.

In Southern Africa they held their convention in Pretoria and were very happy to have Miss Joy Mills with them. The work in this Section proceeds steadily. A comprehensive study course on Theosophy is being drawn up for helping lodges and enquirers.

The West African Federation had an increase of thirty-eight members. They have been helped to buy much-needed books by Dr J.G. Okyere, one of their members living in the United States. A journal has been started for the benefit of the members. The Organizing Secretary, Mr Paul Kwakyi, has visited various lodges and Mr Charles Baiden paid a visit to the Slater Lodge in Monrovia, Liberia, named after Mr Wallace Slater. Regular study meetings, lectures and conferences are going on.

There have been serious problems in the Republic of Ireland and more recently in Denmark. The General Secretary in Dublin was taking a course which led to much dissatisfaction, particularly as there was misuse of the headquarters building. It was not possible to obtain any information from him. Neither dues nor statements of membership were sent to the International Headquarters. Finally it became necessary to cancel the Charter of the Irish Section which in any case did not fulfil the requirements for being a Section under Rule 36(d) of the Rules

and Regulations of the Society. Mrs Win Woods was appointed as Presidential Representative in January of this year. Since then the work has taken on a new *élan* in spite of many legal and financial problems. An effort is being made to revitalize the Society's work in Ireland and I have every hope that following the painful episode better work will be done.

In March this year an application was received from the Lotus Lodge in Denmark, requesting direct affiliation to International Headquarters under Rule 31(c). There were many complaints about the financial administration of the Section and also about the emphasis on Bailey teachings in the theosophical work. I requested Mr Curt Berg, International Treasurer, and Mr Guido Haas, Treasurer of the European Federation, to examine the entire matter as it was not possible to decide from Adyar whether Lotus Lodge had 'serious and weighty reasons' as required by the Rules of the Society, for requesting direct affiliation to Adyar. In August, we came to know that the General Secretary, Mr Hardy Bennis, had called a General Body meeting in order to set up a separate foundation to which he proposed to transfer all the assets of the Danish Section. This foundation, which has since been set up, is of course completely outside the control of the TS and not subject to its rules. After consultation with the Acting Chairman of the European Federation, Mrs Barbro Melander, and the Chairman-elect, Mr Curt Berg, the Executive Committee at Adyar met and recommended that the Charter of the Danish Section be withdrawn and a Presidential Representative be appointed. The building in Copenhagen has been

occupied by the former General Secretary and his supporters after breaking open the lock. The matter is now before a court of law. Mr Uffe Vilstrup, who was appointed Presidential Representative while the Charter of the Section was withdrawn, has the matter in hand. Unfortunately, many members of the TS have no knowledge at all of the Rules and Regulations of the Society. In Denmark many of them have been beguiled into thinking that the Society has been closed down as a result of the Charter being withdrawn, while in fact the Society continues to exist as a Presidential Agency instead of as a Section. The lodges and members can continue to work for Theosophy now as much as they did before. Fortunately in Ireland, the law court recognized that the TS in Ireland continues to exist and therefore there has been no problem about title to the property. It is to be hoped that in Denmark too the judicial authorities will see the situation in the same light.

Miss Ianthe Hoskins, General Secretary of the English Section, reports that activity has been well maintained throughout the Section. Programmes and publicity material have developed an increasing professionalism and there is an expansion in the production of taped lectures and seminars. The Blavatsky lecture was delivered by Dr Yves Marcel on the theme of 'Meditation'. There is a shortage of members able and willing to maintain the efficiency of lodges and of the headquarters at London. This is a difficulty faced by every Section and centre.

The work goes on actively in Scotland too. The Presidential Representative, Mrs Senior, reports that discussion groups in Edinburgh attract visitors from the

different departments of the Edinburgh University. Both in Edinburgh and Glasgow there are good libraries open to members and the public. The director of the Video Education Unit, Mr Alan Senior, is active in distributing video programmes for the presentation of Theosophy. It is reported that there is an increase of members and also a better awareness of the value of Theosophy.

Work is going on in Northern Ireland in spite of the continuing turmoil. Members' meetings are being held regularly and the Regional Secretary reports that they feel it important to remain and work in the area of Belfast known as 'The Murder Mile'. The forty-first convention of the Northern Ireland Federation was held in May with visitors from Dublin and Holland. On the theosophical plane there is brotherly relationship between Ireland and Eire.

The Welsh Section has only two lodges. Statistics have not been received but it is reported that there is good attendance at public meetings.

Let us now turn to the continent of Europe. The report from Belgium is a little more optimistic than before. The General Secretary says attendance at study courses in Brussels is going up and the activities in Antwerp and Ghent are improving. The neighbouring Dutch Section has been helping the Flemish Lodge in Ghent.

The Belgian Section organized a spiritual retreat in August at the International Theosophical Centre, Naarden, announced as 'Five Days of Deepening Inner Life'. Arrangements were made to accommodate the participants in such a way that they could be alone to ponder and meditate. Because 'spiritual food' of the right quality is not easy to obtain,

video tapes of Krishnaji were used as the basis of reflection. Every morning, a previously chosen tape was projected. This was followed by a period of silent pondering alone in the room or under the trees of the beautiful estate. Then the group gathered together for sharing their understanding and probing deeper. A second projection of the same video-tape as in the morning helped listeners to realize more fully the profound content of what was said. Again a silent period of reflection and a further sharing together took place. According to the General Secretary of the Belgian Section, Dr H. van der Hecht, this experiment was a complete success and it would be worth while for other groups to emulate the pattern. She says that the sharing of ideas is only fruitful when the organizer has pondered sufficiently in advance the content of the tapes, and some at least have done previous study. It is of course important for the participants to spend time alone, be silent, and ponder deeply.

The Dutch Section's publishing work has received a new impetus. A series named Adyar Series took birth. Brochures and leaflets have also been published. The Dutch Publishing House is now the sole importer of the publications of the TPH Adyar and of the Adyar Library. The Dutch magazine *Theosofia* has been given a new identity, which is more theosophical. Several seminars and conferences were held during the year. A summer school was organized in August with 'Human Regeneration' as the theme. The General Secretary says: 'The purpose of our Section was directed to emphasize the real aim of the TS and strengthen the inner nucleus of the lodge'. Mrs Heleen Raven, a tireless

worker and devoted member of the Dutch Section, passed away. Both she and Mrs Peggy de Vogel who left this material world a year earlier and who was Recording Secretary and a long-time resident at Adyar, were close links between Adyar and Holland. Others must step in of course and carry on.

The largest Section in Europe is Italy with 1,228 members in good standing and forty-five lodges. The Section magazine has 1,100 subscribers which represents an increase of 140 during the year. The General Secretary, Dr E. Bratina, states that the work ahead is to spread a deeper understanding of the aim of the TS and its implications for the present day, and also training Presidents of lodges to guide the work in a way which is more consistent with the TS aims and relevant to world evolution. The national convention took place in May near Bologna with Madame D. Audoin as guest speaker. The lodge at Turin acquired its own premises. The lodges in Trieste, Milan, Genoa and Rome have also their own buildings.

After an interval of four years there was a summer school in Austria with forty participants. The publishing work of Adyar Verlag which Dr Norbert Lauppert founded in 1947 and carried on with great devotion up to now, with the help of his wife who is now General Secretary, was transferred to Germany. The German Section has undertaken the responsibility of seeing that there is a continuity in the publishing work.

The French-speaking summer school was held in France with about ninety members participating. With help from the Non-English Publications Fund, a translation of *At the Feet of the Master*

into Ewe, the main language spoken in Togo, was published. In Togo, they are ready to construct a building for a theosophical centre. Every year the Theosophical Order of Service in France has a sale to collect money.

There was a Congress of all the theosophical movements in Germany at Würzburg in October 1988 to commemorate the centenary of *The Secret Doctrine*. There was again a meeting of representatives of all the movements in April this year and it is proposed to make this an annual event. Otherwise the Section carried on its regular work in the usual manner. A summer school was held at St Martin with ninety participants. A German 'School of Theosophy' took place in October.

In Switzerland, according to the report of the General Secretary, there is a revival and renewal. During the year the Section registered twenty-seven new members making a total of 126 as against 99 last year. They are preparing for the Pays-Latin summer school for French-speaking members which will be held next year at Glion in Switzerland.

The Spanish Section organized the Iberian Conference with Mr Isaac Jauli, General Secretary of the Mexican Section, and Dr Yves Marcel as visiting lecturers. The Section also received a visit from Miss Ianthe Hoskins as in previous years. The European School of Theosophy was held for the first time in Spain in the monastery of St John of the Cross in Segovia. New rules have been drafted which it is hoped will make the functioning of the Section more smooth. The journal of the Section *Sophia* has been a successful instrument for theosophical propagation.

Several members of the Portuguese Section attended the Iberian week at Alicante in Spain. There have been difficulties in publishing the magazine of the Section but otherwise the work is being carried on regularly.

The General Secretary of the TS in Yugoslavia, Mr Anton Jesse, reports that in spite of all the proof to the contrary, the Croatian authorities decided in March this year that the group which broke away in 1984, and which names itself 'Pytagora' is the Society recognized by them. This decision resulted in the TS losing for a time the right to public activity. An appeal was made to the law court in Zagreb. After consultation with the Slovenian authorities, the TS, with its headquarters in Ljubljana, was re-registered as a Society and obtained permission to function in public and accept members from the whole of Yugoslavia. The appeal before the Zagreb Court was withdrawn, as the problem of recognition was otherwise settled!

There are three lodges and forty eight members in Yugoslavia. The lodge which was formerly in Croatia was moved to Slovenia. Regular theosophical activity goes on in all the lodges. Miss Mary Anderson, Secretary of the European Federation, has visited the Section several times. *Light on the Path* was published with a grant from the Non-English Publications Fund. *At the Feet of the Master* and *The Voice of the Silence* are being printed. Two numbers of their bulletin have been issued.

In Sweden, a summer school was held with Mr Curt Berg as guest speaker. Dr Annie Besant's *The Theosophic Life* has been published in Swedish translation. The Section moved to new premises

in Stockholm. The General Secretary reports that the turnover of the bookshop has increased, and a tape centre has been started for lending and sale.

The Finnish Section has been active as usual. It has twenty lodges and four study groups. They published *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy* compiled by Ianthe Hoskins in their language. Miss Mary Anderson lectured in some cities and was the guest speaker at the annual convention held in Helsinki.

The Norwegian report states that the Section has worked along traditional lines, though slower than usual. The number of lodges remains the same. Two members were at the Swedish summer school, and one at the German. The General Secretary attended the Dutch summer school. The membership is around sixty.

Conditions in Sri Lanka continue to be very difficult. The General Secretary reports that they have only been holding mini-meetings in Colombo with small attendances. He has not received reports from lodges outside Colombo.

In Pakistan the most active lodge is in Karachi. Two other lodges are in Hyderabad and Quetta, the last of which has been languishing. The building in Quetta was sold and has generated substantial funds which they propose to use for dissemination of Theosophy and for inviting lecturers. The TOS receives money from the Save the Children Fund and channels it to suitable persons. An animal welfare committee is active.

The report from Israel mentions that they publish a bi-monthly magazine called *Or*, meaning 'Light', of which 500 copies are distributed. There is only a small membership in this country.

Miss Joy Mills toured Australia and New Zealand as already mentioned and also visited South Africa taking time away from her major work in the Krotona School of Theosophy. Her visits have been much appreciated everywhere. Miss Ianthe Hoskins toured New Zealand and also visited Spain where she has become a regular member of the Theosophical family. Dr C.V. Agarwal, General Secretary of the Indian Section, participated in the Indo-Pacific Conference at Perth and visited Singapore, Penang and Kuala Lumpur. I made brief visits to Sydney and Ojai, gave lectures in Singapore, conducted various study courses in different parts of India, and also spoke at several Federation conferences.

At the International Headquarters at Adyar developments have taken place in a satisfactory way. Both sessions of the School of the Wisdom attracted a considerable number of students from India and abroad. The January-March session was conducted by Mr Justice A.R. Bakshi on the themes 'How the One became the Many' and 'The Remaking of Man'. His talks were greatly appreciated and will be brought out as a book by TPH, Adyar. The October-December session was directed by Mr Rohit Mehta on the theme 'Meditation Communion'. Apart from the regular students, a number of persons participated for shorter periods. In both sessions a variety of lectures were given by guest speakers and proved to be of interest to those who heard them.

The Adyar Library has suffered a loss by the serious illness of Mrs Seetha Neelakantan who was Librarian for several decades. Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam has replaced her, but there is

need for more assistance as the work enlarges. Three of the older publications were reprinted during the year. A descriptive catalogue of the Tamil manuscripts in the library and a literary work *Udārarāghava* are being processed through the press. Dr K.K. Raja, Director, and Dr K.V. Sarma have jointly undertaken a work on *Textual Criticism and Editorial Principles*. Dr E.R. Sreekrishna Sarma is editing an anonymous commentary on the *Kausitaka Brāhmaṇa Upanishad*. Dr S. Sankaranarayanan is preparing a new edition of the *Dasopanishads* and also a descriptive catalogue of Srauta manuscripts in the library.

The library has attracted as usual a number of scholars and visitors from many parts of the world. The endowment fund started during 1986 is now making it possible for the library to add to its collection and undertake important work.

The two rooms in our headquarters building where the Archives were housed have been airconditioned, for this is the best means of conserving documents in a climate such as we have at Adyar. Major renovation work had to be done to the headquarters building which is about 200 years old, as cracks had developed and the building was unsafe. After repairs were completed, more of the ground-floor rooms have been put at the disposal of the Museum and Archives Department. This will provide space for preservation work and display, and also a working area for researchers. Delegates to the Convention will be able to see an exhibition arranged in connection with the Birth Centenary of N. Sri Ram in the area added to the previously occupied rooms of the Archives.

The Theosophical Publishing House has done well during the year. Apart from the usual reprints, a revised edition of the *Reader's Guide to the Mahatma Letters* was published with a generous donation. In commemoration of his birth centenary a new book of Sri Ram consisting of talks on the three little theosophical classics and the *Bhagavad Gita* entitled *The Way of Wisdom* is being brought out. The Book Gift Fund of the TPH has been used to distribute theosophical literature to universities and public libraries in India and donations of books have been given to some areas abroad where they are needed.

Appreciative letters have been received about *The Theosophist*. A special issue was brought out in December to commemorate N. Sri Ram's birth centenary. The support of readers and members is requested to increase the number of subscriptions of this magazine which links the President and the International Headquarters with all of the theosophical world. A Theosophist Endowment Fund has been set up, the interest from which will go towards improving the journal. Donations to this fund will also enable gift subscriptions to be sent to universities and public libraries.

The equipment in the Vasanta Press is being updated. Desktop publishing equipment has been installed, and during the coming year a laser printer will be acquired so that the volume of work can be handled without delay.

The Theosophy Science Group is seeking affiliation with the International Society. Till now it has been under the aegis of the Indian Section. Consideration is being given to improving the standard of the journal, conducting seminars and

other programmes with the advice of an internationally-constituted board.

There was concern all over the world when the central trunk of the great banyan tree at Adyar was uprooted by a storm in June. The chairman of the Port Trust of Madras, horticulturists and citizens took great interest in seeing that the trunk was replanted. All steps are being taken to ensure that the tree remains in a state of good health. We are grateful to have technical advice from experts in the Botanical Survey of India. According to them, it is natural for a very old banyan tree to lose its central trunk at some time or other. The banyan perpetuates itself by spreading out and replanting itself by sending down its aerial roots which grow into thick trunks.

A generous donation from Madame Lou Muri of Geneva will go a long way in maintaining the banyan tree in addition to fulfilling her instructions about the Centenary Avenue.

The amenities for residents and guests at Adyar are being constantly improved and the renovation and repair of old buildings is being steadily carried out. Subscribers to *Adyar Newsletter* are regularly kept in touch with what happens on this and other fronts.

The Besant Scout Camping Centre continues to draw large numbers of scouts and students every weekend. It is next only to the Banyan Tree in attracting the public, but in this case the visitors are young boys and girls. The charges for its use have been kept to the minimum to enable large numbers to benefit from the Centre.

There is reason to be happy with the progress in the Olcott Memorial High School founded by Colonel Olcott in

1894. There are at present 469 boys and 246 girls receiving free education and other benefits with support given by the members of the TS. This year's examination result has been much more satisfactory than before and the Craft Centre started last year has been functioning well.

The Human Resources Development Ministry and the Welfare Ministry of the Government of India made grants which have enabled us to employ additional teachers, add substantially to the library, buy equipment for the Craft Centre, and hold workshops for training students as well as teachers. A new water tank constructed from the grant will provide much-needed water for the centre and enable the students to learn gardening and make the area more beautiful.

A Centre for Educators named 'Banyan' was inaugurated on 8 April this year under the aegis of the Olcott Education Society. It held a meeting of principals of different educational institutions, a workshop on music, and another one to bring awareness of true educational aims and outlook to teachers. The participation has been very encouraging. The Olcott Education Society is the parent body of the Olcott Memorial School, the HPB Hostel and the Centre for Educators.

The process of dissolution of the Olcott Welfare Society has been slow. We hope that by early next year the Social Welfare Centre will be run entirely under the Olcott Education Society. Miss Ramadevi who is well qualified for the work has been appointed as Superintendent of the Social Welfare Centre and expansion of its work is being planned so that it will be a greater source of help for the poor in the neighbourhood.

The International Secretary of the Theosophical Order of Service, Mr C. Seshadri, reports that there are a number of TS members rendering help to the needy, but they do not always think of doing so under the aegis of the TOS. Several branches of the TOS are lax in reporting their activities to the national Secretary or Director.

Apart from the references made by me about TOS work in connection with some Sections, there are other regions where fine activity is going on. From England many contributions have been made to disaster areas. Their list of small charities to which support is being given has grown from thirty-two to over a hundred. In India, it is reported that there are eighty-five groups rendering service in a variety of ways. A souvenir was published in December 1988 to mark eighty years of service by the TOS in India. The TOS in France sponsored fifty-seven children in several institutions and sent clothes, medicines and so forth to countries in the Third World. From Australia, too, the TOS has sent aid to a number of causes and places. Those who are interested may obtain information in detail from the national officers or the International Secretary.

We were sorry to lose from the staff at Adyar Mr Conrad and Mrs Helen Jamieson, whose whole-hearted service for the last few years was most valuable. Mr Conrad Jamieson established closer links with the Sections and lodges and was much appreciated. They hope to be able to return to Adyar later, and so do we. Mr and Mrs Curt Berg will also be leaving for Sweden. Mr Curt Berg is now the elected Chairman of the European

Federation. His capable role as International Treasurer and the presence of both of them contributed significantly to the work at Adyar.

There is great need for additions to the staff here. Competent and responsible members are needed for work in the library, garden, Leadbeater Chambers, Bhojanasala, bookshop, Vasanta Press and other departments. Some of our most devoted workers are doing double or even triple duty. Mr R. Gopalaratnam has been good enough to take on the heavy additional duty of General Manager while still in charge of the TPH. Mr R.M. Tolani has given many extra hours for work in Leadbeater Chambers in addition to his taxing duties as Maintenance Superintendent. Mrs Norma Sastry works without the respite she deserves, having like the others extra

responsibilities. To these and several other colleagues I offer most grateful thanks on behalf of the Society. The Powers that Be take note of all self-sacrificing labour and I am sure they will receive more than mere thanks from me. It is our hope that volunteers will come forward to serve this the highest of all causes. What nobler cause can there be than to try and elevate the moral level of humanity as well as its spiritual perceptions, to knit all human beings in one loving fraternity, to learn how to transform this visible world around us into the lovely image of the immortal invisible world of the Spirit? Let us not miss the privilege of putting our hands and hearts to the task of changing the world from what it is into an image of beauty and splendour.

RADHA BURNIER

THE TREASURER'S REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 SEPTEMBER 1989

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

As mentioned in the last report, due to changes in the Indian Income Tax Act, the financial year of the Theosophical Society is now ending 31 March, and the accounts now presented comprise the 18 months from 1 Oct. 1987 to 31 March 1989. Also the format for the Income and Expenditure Account of the Theosophical Society has been changed, mainly in order to show in a better way the activities of a charitable nature at Adyar and for the propagation of Theosophy.

We find that on the charitable work detailed in the accounts, Rs. 276,862 have been spent and on the propagation of Theosophy Rs. 4,329,744 during the 18 months under review. These two sectors of the work have been financed mainly from the current income and drawing from earmarked funds, but a part of education expenses amounting to Rs. 57,476 have been met out of grant-in-aid received from the Government of India.

The total of the T.S. revenue income and expenditure shows an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 128,514 for the 18 months ending 31 March 1989.

As to the activities of the special departments the following comments are made, the details being given in the departmental accounts concerned.

The Maintenance Department has been carrying out extensive repairs and maintenance of the buildings within the compound and has taken important steps towards the renewal and upkeep of the building stock. The total revenue amount spent by the department during the period under review has been Rs. 1,607,168 as compared to Rs. 978,413 during the 12 months ending 30 March 1987.

New buildings, etc. During the period under review the construction of a building comprising 6 units for the Craft Centre of the Olcott Memorial School was completed at a total cost of Rs. 357,887. To a great extent this building has been made possible by a generous donation from a member in Switzerland. A new telephone exchange was installed during the period at a total cost of Rs. 289,107.

The Adyar Library and Research Centre. The net cost for running the Library and Research Centre during the 18 months ending 31 March 1989 has gone down to Rs. 99,856 as compared to Rs. 138,457 for the 12 months ending 30 Sep. 1987 due mainly to interest from the increased Adyar Library Endowment Fund.

An accumulated depreciation on publications during the last few years at Rs. 204,843 has been taken into account in giving the opening stock of publications, namely Rs. 405,488.

The Garden Department. The cost of the general maintenance of the green areas of the Estate has gone up from Rs. 99,306 for the 12 months ending 30 Sep. 1987 to Rs. 187,987

for the 18 months under review, while the income from produce has gone down from Rs. 173,005 to Rs. 146,878 for the same two periods respectively. This is partly because the change in the accounting year meant showing expenditure only but not the corresponding proceeds of sales, as the sale season came later. These are the main factors in the increase of the excess of expenditure over income, which was Rs. 202,765 for the period ended 31 March 1989. Steps are being taken to bring down this deficit in the coming years.

The Vasanta Press got Desk Top Publication equipment at a cost of Rs. 56,962. As a consequence an unutilized donation of Rs. 30,639 for the purchase of a Photo Type-setter and Mono Matrix Machineries has been transferred to the General Fund for the purchase of a Modi Xerox Copier. The Vasanta Press shows an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 202,148. The Press has the difficulty of frequent power breaks, being connected only to the Madras Electricity network. The acquisition of a Diesel Generator for the supply of power during the breaks is in progress.

The Theosophical Publishing House has shown a surplus for the year ending 30 Sep. 1987 and also for the 18 months period ended 31 March 1989. The net excess of Income over Expenditure for the period under review amounts to Rs. 686,177.

Other Departments show on the whole similar results for the 18 months ending 31 March 1989 as for the 12 months ending 30 Sep. 1987.

Grants for Educational Work The Government of India provided Rs. 305,400 from the Ministry of Human Resources Development and Rs. 200,000 from the Ministry of Welfare in order to improve the work in the Olcott Memorial School.

Funds. The Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund has during the period under review increased from Rs. 8,622,363 to Rs. 9,103,100, the Adyar Library Endowment Fund from Rs. 789,317 to Rs. 1,795,254 and the Education Endowment Fund from Rs. 686,142 to Rs. 1,972,418.

The total amount of all funds on 31 March 1989 was Rs. 33,438,907 and the total amount of Investments was Rs. 17,717,079.

The overall financial situation of the Theosophical Society continues to be satisfactory.

Adyar
18 December 1989

CURT BERG
Hony. Treasurer.

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

(1 October 1987 to 31 March 1989)

					1986-87	1987-89
					Rs.	Rs.
The Theosophical Society in	Argentina	...	...	...	23,020	6,905
"	Australia	...	...	...	26,246	70,901
"	Austria	...	...	...	4,723	10,453
"	Belgium	...	...	...	8,181	8,871
"	Bolivia	...	...	...	—	1,133
"	Brazil	...	...	...	2,615	5,105
"	Canadian Section	...	...	...	2,702	3,829
"	Canadian Federation	...	...	...	451	—
"	Central America	...	...	...	2,411	1,171
"	Chile	...	...	...	—	2,055
"	Colombia	...	...	...	—	1,200
"	Cuba	...	...	...	—	1,491
"	Denmark	...	...	...	3,875	10,194
"	East and Central Africa	...	...	...	—	91
"	England	...	...	...	11,344	32,344
"	Finland	...	...	...	9,293	—
"	France	...	...	...	57,015	—
"	Germany	...	...	...	25,812	21,547
"	Iceland	...	...	...	6,229	4,171
"	India	...	...	...	—	41,636
"	Ireland	...	...	...	—	1,953
"	Italy	...	...	...	9,878	14,346
"	Israel	...	...	...	—	3,288
"	Japan	...	...	...	—	4,002
"	Mexico	...	...	...	—	2,032
"	Netherlands	...	...	...	26,310	—
"	New Zealand	...	...	...	10,874	11,773
"	North Ireland	...	...	...	66	—
"	Norway	...	...	...	652	—
"	Pakistan	...	...	...	—	500
"	Peru	...	...	...	—	122
"	Philippines	...	...	...	4,793	—
"	Portugal	...	...	...	639	1,682
"	Puerto Rico	...	...	...	2,394	3,403
"	Scotland	...	...	...	—	714
"	Southern Africa	...	...	...	279	2,717
"	Spain	...	...	...	3,533	8,469
"	Sweden	...	...	...	3,242	2,340
"	Switzerland	...	...	...	5,861	3,855
"	Uruguay	...	...	...	1,468	4,212
"	U.S.A.	...	...	...	—	419,297
"	Venezuela	...	...	...	648	712
"	Wales	...	...	...	—	1,193
"	West Africa	...	...	...	1,195	1,966
"	Yugoslavia	...	...	...	484	3,424
"		...	...	...	4,615	231
Lodges attached to Adyar	...	...	...	...	833	3,995
Fellows at large	...	...	...	...
					261,681	719,323

BALANCE SHEET AS

As at 30-9-87		LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-1989	
Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
		General Fund:			
	12,039,683	Balance as per last Balance Sheet ...		13,163,541	
	590,000	Add: Donations for Capital Additions ...		1,515,307	
	—	„ Transfer from Education fund for Capital Additions ...		264,301	
	—	„ Donations for additional printing machine ...		30,639	
	200,000	„ Sale consideration for Kotagiri property ...		—	
	37,627	„ Grant for Purchase of equipment —Adyar Library ...		36,990	
	677,896	„ Transfer from Adyar Estate Improvement Fund ...		1,282,734	
	43,789	„ Transfer of Gratuity Reserve from certain Departments ...		—	
	24,000	„ Transfer of Juhu Property Bldg. Fund ...		—	
	19,676	„ Transfer of Miscellaneous Non-Corpus Funds on merger ...		—	
	—	Grant-in-Aid from Government of India utilized for construction of well at Olcott School ...		27,215	
	13,632,671			16,320,727	
	505,000	Less: Adjustment on account of TPH Investments relating to an earlier year ...		—	
	+ 35,870	Surplus (Deficit) for the Period ...		(128,514)	
13,163,541	8,622,363	Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund ...		9,103,100	16,192,213
14,259,013	5,636,650	Other Funds ...	5	8,143,594	17,246,694
	1,363,719	Current Liabilities and Provisions ...	6	1,551,520	
	—	Other Liabilities— Grant-in-Aid from Government of India utilized for Olcott Memorial School ...		253,535	
1,363,719		Notes on Accounts ...	7		1,805,055
28,786,273					35,243,962

In the opinion of the Committee the Current Assets, Loans and Advances are approximately of the value stated if realized in the ordinary course of transacting the affairs of the Society and the Provision made in the accounts for all known liabilities is adequate.

MADRAS
18-12-1989

RADHA S. BURNIER
President

CURT BERG
Hony. Treasurer

28,786,273			35,243,962
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This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our Report of even date.

FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 30-9-87	EXPENDITURE	18 monhs ended 31-3-1989		
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	Departments (Net Expenditure)			
12,234	Bhojanasala ...		29,195	
11,940	Garden ...		202,765	
27,713	Leadbeater Chambers ...		39,631	
718,293	Maintenance ...		1,250,319	1,521,910
	Charitable Work			
—	Animal Welfare ...		3,030	
35,000	Education ...		161,011	
—	Distress Relief ...		2,100	
23,744	Free Dispensary ...		45,305	
—	Medical Treatment ...		4,454	
—	Grants to Theosophical Order of Service ...		16,336	
—	School Fees and Books ...		6,105	
—	Social Welfare work ...		30,596	
—	H.P.B. Hostel ...		—	
—	Miscellaneous Charities ...		7,925	
			276,862	
	<i>Less: Govt. of India Grant utilized for school ...</i>	57,476		
	<i>Transfer from Other Funds ...</i>	174,081		
			231,557	45,305
	Propagation of Theosophy:			
	Adyar Library			
134,071	Publication Expenses ...	217,591		
352,583	Other Expenses ...	391,447		
			609,038	
	The Theosophical Publishing House			
546,834	Trading Expenses ...	1,141,284		
784,569	Other Expenses ...	624,285		
	Adjustment Relating to Prior Years Account ...	7,786		
			1,773,355	
191,763	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter		296,250	
	Vasanta Press			
1,232,980	Production expenses ...	1,151,271		
293,808	Other expenses ...	461,934		
			1,613,205	
—	Contribution to Adyar Library and Research Centre ...		18,500	
—	School of Wisdom ...		2,304	
—	T. S. Workers' Training Camp ...		3,063	
4,558	Information and Public Relations ...		1,794	
—	Non-English Publications ...		129	
15,032	Archives and Museums ...		11,949	
—	Theosophy Science Study Group ...		157	
			4,329,744	
	<i>Less: Transfer from Other Funds ...</i>		3,193	4,326,551
	International Offices			
	President and Vice-President ...		40,410	
148,837	Treasurer ...		187,755	
	Secretary ...		118,108	346,273
	Establishment			
29,627	Headquarters ...		66,697	
16,727	General Manager's Office ...		34,402	
58,422	Movable Properties Department ...		96,861	
17,059	Sanitation Department ...		44,116	
208,257	Security Department ...		424,771	666,847
4,864,051	c/o			6,906,886

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 1989

[illegible]

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

5,762,959

MADRAS
18-12-1989

	Rs.
	7,726,860
<hr/>	
	7,726,860

CURT BERG
Hony. Treasurer

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 1991

EXPENDITURE

INCOME

		Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
Departments				Propagation of Theosophy			
Bhojanasala ...		16,850		Adyar Library & Research Centre ...		295,000	
Garden ...		39,500		T.P.H. ...		1,139,200	
Leadbeater Chambers ...		11,200		The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...		192,500	
Maintenance ...		1,225,800		Vasanta Press ...		827,000	
			1,293,350				2,453,700
Charitable Work				General Donations ...			60,000
Animal Welfare ...		2,500		Membership Fees and Dues ...			200,000
Education ...		100,000		Interest and Dividends ...			1,800,000
Distress Relief ...		4,000		Licence Fees ...			60,000
Free Dispensary ...		30,000		Quarters Maintenance ...			100,000
Medical Treatment ...		6,000		Income from Properties outside Adyar ...			10,000
Grants to Theosophical Order of Service ...		10,000		Miscellaneous Receipts ...			1,100
School Fees and Books ...		15,000		Excess of Expenditure over Income ...			66,900
Social Welfare Work ...		40,000					
H.P.B. Hostel ...		10,000					
Miscellaneous Charities ...		12,000					
		229,500					
Less: Transfer from other funds ...		205,000					
			24,500				
Propagation of Theosophy							
Adyar Library & Research Centre ...		502,200					
T.P.H. ...		450,600					
The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...		203,100					
Vasanta Press ...		872,500					
School of the Wisdom ...		1,500					
T.S. Workers Training Camp ...		15,000					
Information and Public Relations ...		2,000					
Theosophy Science Study Group ...		17,050					
Archives and Museums ...		10,000					
			2,073,950				
International Offices							
President and Vice-President ...		30,000					
Treasurer ...		150,000					
Secretary ...		70,000					
			250,000				
Establishment							
Headquarters ...		45,000					
General Manager's Office ...		20,000					
Movable Properties Department ...		94,400					
Sanitary Department ...		25,000					
Security Department ...		385,000					
			569,400				
Other Expenses							
Insurance Premium ...		20,000					
Legal and Audit Expenses ...		40,000					
Taxes ...		40,000					
Bank Charges ...		1,500					
Motor Car Expenses ...		25,000					
Miscellaneous ...		14,000					
			140,500				
Depreciation ...			400,000				
			4,751,700				
							4,751,700

HEADQUARTERS
ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020
INDIA

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 1990

Executive Committee:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs Radha Burnier | <i>President</i> |
| 2. Mr Surendra Narayan | <i>Vice-President</i> |
| 3. Dr Hugh Gray | <i>Secretary</i> |
| 4. Mr S. S. Varma | <i>Treasurer</i> |
| 5. Mrs Norma Y. Sastry | <i>General Council Member</i> |
| 6. Mr Ch. Sankar Rao | |
| 7. Mr R. Gopalaratnam | |
| 8. Mr K. Visvanathan | |

General Manager: Mr R. Gopalaratnam

Adyar Library: *Director:* Dr K. K. Raja

Librarian: Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam

Bhojanasala: Mr K. Ramanathan

Bookshop: Mr C. Seshadri

Garden: Captain P. D. Venkatesh

Information: Mr C. Seshadri

Leadbeater Chambers: Mr S. Krishnamurthy

Maintenance: Mr R. M. Tolani

Medical and Sanitary: Dr S. V. Joseph

Movable Properties: Mr S. M. Amarnath Rao

Museum and Archives: Mr S. S. Varma

School of the Wisdom: *Director:* Miss Joy Mills (Jan.-March 1990)
Jack Patterson (Oct.-Dec. 1990)

Security: Mr D. V. Subramaniam

Theosophical Publishing House: *Manager:* Mr R. Gopalaratnam
Editor: Mr John Clarke

The Theosophist: *Assistant Editor:* Mr G. Naganathan

Vasanta Press: Mr B. K. Rao

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 1989

National Societies and Sections	37		
Regional Associations (formed under Rule 35(c))	3		
Presidential Agencies	8		
Total Lodges and Study Centres	1,096		
Total Membership 1988	31,392		
Total Membership 1989	31,045		

(Does not include membership in seven areas and two lodges attached to Adyar which have not sent reports)

	No. of Lodges and Study Centres	No. of Members		No. of Lodges and Study Centres	No. of Members
1. Africa, East & Central	21	872	27. Italy	45	1,228
2. Africa, South	6	318	28. Malaysia	3	86
3. Africa, West	18	404	29. Mexico	14	330
4. America, Central	—	—	30. Myanmar	—	—
5. Argentina	26	536	31. Netherlands	19	712
6. Australia	13	1,352	32. New Zealand	16	1,776
7. Austria	4	197	33. Norway	5	60
8. Belgium	8	135	34. Pakistan	6	221
9. Bolivia	4	46	35. Peru	2	27
10. Brazil	43	889	36. Philippines	—	—
11. Canada	9	242	37. Portugal	11	271
12. Canadian Federation	—	—	38. Puerto Rico	5	135
13. Chile	6	62	39. Scotland	6	154
14. Colombia	9	142	40. Spain	13	319
15. Cuba	15	493	41. Sri Lanka	8	—
16. Denmark	—	—	42. Sweden	7	211
17. England	55	1,735	43. Switzerland	5	126
18. Finland	20	480	44. U.S.A.	152	5,484
19. France	34	911	46. Uruguay	5	75
20. Germany, West	10	260	46. Venezuela	2	45
21. Greece	—	—	47. Wales	2	63
22. Iceland	—	—	48. Yugoslavia	3	48
23. India	444	9,933			
24. Indonesia	18	575			
25. Ireland, North	3	44			
26. Ireland, Rep. of	1	48			
			Total	1,096	31,045

Lodges attached directly to Adyar

1. Comilla (Bangladesh)	1	47
2. Cameroon	1	18
3. Hongkong	1	—
4. Tel Aviv (Israel)	1	23
5. Tokyo and Osaka (Japan)	2	47
6. Korea	1	—
7. Singapore	1	95
8. Fellows at Large	—	11
Total	8	241

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

The T.P.H. at Adyar had another successful year of sales and publishing. It brought out seventeen reprints and an Indian edition of the Blavatsky Lecture by the International President entitled *The Universal Yoga Tradition*. Due to the munificence of a donor, a revised edition of *The Reader's Guide to the Mahatma Letters* was published and was received well.

In commemoration of the birth centenary of the fifth President, N. Sri Ram, a new book of his unpublished talks was brought out under the title *The Way of Wisdom*. Reprints of two of his books were also published: *The Nature of Our Seeking* and *Seeking Wisdom*. A special commemorative issue of *The Theosophist* in honour of Sri Ram was published in

December carrying articles on him and by him.

A benevolent donor has made a substantial donation to the Book Gift Fund to print selected books of J. Krishnamurti and also some theosophical books for free distribution to public and university libraries all over India. This project will commence in the coming year.

While the T.P.H. has been receiving very appreciative letters from readers about the standard and quality of the articles in *The Theosophist*, subscriptions for the same have not shown any appreciable increase. Members and readers are therefore requested to help in increasing the subscriptions.

MR R. GOPALARATANAM
Manager

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Staff

Mrs Seetha Neelakantan who has been working in the Library from November 1957 had to retire from 5 February 1989 because of serious illness. Her devoted service to the library for nearly three decades is hereby placed on record with much appreciation. Smt. Parvati Gopalaratnam was appointed Acting Librarian from 3 March 1989.

The Director, Dr K. Kunjunni Raja, and some of our staff in the research section participated in various conferences and seminars during the year. Dr Raja participated in six seminars and Dr E.R. Sreekrishna Sarma in a Vedic Seminar at Tirupati. Dr S. Sankaranarayanan took part in three seminars and Dr K.V. Sarma in four.

Publications

The following were reprinted during 1989:

- (1) *Amarakośa* with South Indian commentaries, critically edited by A. A. Ramanathan, part I.
- (2) *Thirty-two Vidyās*
- (3) *Melarāgamālikā* of Mahā Vaidyanātha Śivan (revised edition) by S. Subrahmanya Sastri.

To be released

- (1) *Udārarāghava* of Sāṅkalyamalla with available commentaries, critically edited with detailed introduction and notes by Prof. Venkatachari of Toronto University.
- (2) *Descriptive Catalogue of Tamil MSS in the Adyar Library and*

Research Centre prepared by Pandit K. Ramachandra Sarma.

In the Press

- (1) *Saṅgītaratnākara* of Śārṅgadeva with the commentaries of Kallinātha, vol. II, part I.

Brahmavidyā

Brahmavidyā, the Adyar Library Bulletin, Vol. 52 was released in April 1989. Vol. 53 is in preparation and will be released early in 1990. The Bulletin has 110 subscribers, 122 exchanges, 20 life-members; 137 complimentary copies are posted.

New Publications

- (a) *Textual Criticism and Editorial Principles* with special reference to Sanskrit, by Dr K. K. Raja and Dr K. V. Sarma.
- (b) *Kauṣītaka Brāhmaṇa Upaniṣad*, text with an anonymous commentary edited by Dr Sreekrishna Sarma and translated by Dr A. G. K. Warrier.
- (c) *Descriptive Catalogue of Śrauta Manuscripts* by Dr S. Sankaranarayanan, with the assistance of Sri Ramachandra Sarma.

Services Rendered

Photocopies of paper MSS (in frames) 2,988; palm leaf MSS 2,030; transcripts 7,829; books 20,771; and others totalling 34,770 frames were supplied to order; and for the Adyar Library 3,567 frames were prepared. Microfilms of palm leaf MSS 322, paper MSS 10, transcripts 3,198, totalling 3,530 frames were supplied.

Repair and Preservation

In the binding section 895 books including 23 laminated books were bound, and 201 books repaired.

Acquisition and Cataloguing

During the year under report, 2,915 books were added to the Library's collection of which 1,225 were catalogued. Out of these 194 books were purchased and the rest were gifts. Our thanks are due to: Adyar Bookshop, Sydney, Australia, 178 books; late Mr J.T. Thadani, 579; Nehru Museum 33; President's Office 60; International Secretary's Office 55; T.P.H. Adyar 37; and Quest Books from T.P.H. Wheaton, 6. Our thanks are also due to the T.P.H. Adyar for copies of reprints and new titles. Also to T.P.H. Wheaton for gifts of 16 audiovisual Tapes.

Membership

The Library has 626 Readers, 335 Borrowers from the city and other places; 38,176 books and 3,519 MSS were consulted and 6,236 books were borrowed.

Research Scholars

Twenty-three research scholars from various universities and institutions of learning abroad used the Library. They were from the Universities of Vienna, California, New York, Chicago, Sains (Malaysia), Marburg and Heidelberg, British Columbia and Belfast; also from Davidson College, U.S.A. Berea College, U.S.A., and Trinity College, Cambridge.

Eighteen Indian research scholars also made use of the Library coming from the Universities of Mysore, Allahabad, Simla, Utkal, Berhampur, Kurukshetra, Pondichery, Hyderabad, Aligarh and Bombay.

Visitors

8,856 people from the city and other places visited the library during the year. Overseas visitors were from the U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Japan and Scotland. Special mention must be made of the Soviet Consul General Mr Vadim G. Cherepov

who evinced keen interest in the library and its collection.

Donations

The Library Endowment Fund stood at Rs. 18,91,225 on 30 Sep. 89. We thank

Mr George Linton, U.S.A. for his donation of \$1,500 and Dr J. D. van Buren Schele, England, for £100.

MRS PARVATI GOPALARATNAM
Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

October-December 1988 Session

The October-December 1988 session of the School of the Wisdom was directed by Mr Conrad Jamieson and attracted nearly forty students from India and abroad. The theme of this session was 'Self-Regeneration' and dwelt on three aspects: self-culture, meditation and service. In addition, special weekend programmes were conducted by Mr Achyut Patwardhan on 'Self-Regeneration in the Buddhist Tradition' and by Mrs Radha Burnier on 'The Ethics of Liberation'. Several other guest speakers also gave lectures in the afternoons.

January-March 1989 Session

This session was directed by Mr Justice A. R. Bakshi, a long-time member of the Indian Section and a distinguished scholar well versed in Indian scriptures and philosophy. The themes were: 'How the One Becomes the Many' and 'The Remaking of Man'. Thirty-five students from nine countries and several observers from Madras attended. A faculty of nine took afternoon classes and the students presented some fine papers. There were discussions with questions and answers.

MRS NORMA Y. SASTRY
Secretary

MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

There continued to be a demand for study of archival material from many sources. Mr Stephen Richard Prother from the U.S. spent some weeks consulting papers for his Ph.D. thesis relating to the President-Founder Col. H. S. Olcott. So did Ms Jyoti Chandra from Chandigarh, India, researching on Dr Besant for her doctoral thesis.

The Archives were closed for some time to arrange for air-conditioning of the two rooms in the Headquarters building as this is the best means to preserve documents. Major renovation work had to be done to the Headquarters building as it is about 200 years old. After the repairs were completed, more of the

ground floor rooms have been put at the disposal of the Museum and Archives Department to provide ample space for preservation work and display as well as sufficient working place for researchers. With this extension of premises it will now be possible to take up the work of conservation and update the catalogues.

A photographic exhibition on the life and sayings of Mr Sri Ram, the fifth President of the T.S., was arranged to commemorate his birth centenary. On display were nearly a hundred photographs of Sri Ram, including those of his early life, world-wide travels and meetings with prominent dignitaries. Also

displayed were a few mementos and all his books, as well as many sayings of his. The exhibition was viewed and appreciated by the more than thousand

delegates attending the International Convention in December 1989.

MR S. S. VARMA
Officer in Charge

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

The Olcott Memorial High School

The Olcott Harijan Free Schools started by Col. H. S. Olcott was perhaps the earliest pioneering institution dedicated to the uplift of Harijans by providing them good education and necessary training in useful arts and crafts. After Olcott's demise in 1907, the Theosophical Society's main school for the underprivileged was renamed in his honour as the Olcott Memorial High School.

At present the school has a strength of 469 boys and 246 girls, totalling 715; and a staff strength of 23 teachers and four non-teaching staff. From this year the Primary and Secondary wings of the school will function as one integrated unit for effective utilization of resources and educational programmes.

In 1988 the Ministry of Human Resources Development of the Government of India sanctioned a substantial grant towards improvements and innovations. Steps have been taken to appoint additional teachers and provide teaching-aids and other instructional material. Nine new teachers in different disciplines have been inducted. Five new instructors have been appointed for the instruction of crafts which is an area that the school is proceeding to emphasize quite effectively. Another grant made it possible to procure essential furniture and equipment.

Over the past three years significant improvement was seen in the academic performance of our students. An in-service orientation programme was held

for Primary Teachers during August-September 1989. A similar workshop in music was conducted in June-July 1989. Teachers have attended seminars on the teaching of mathematics, geometry, computers, etc. A project in Curricular Development has also been undertaken. The school library has been enriched by the addition of 900 books in English and Tamil since March 1988, as well as newspapers and magazines in both languages.

The craft centre which has added a new dimension to the school was inaugurated by the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Dr P.C. Alexander, in December 1988. Six rooms of 250 sq.ft. each were built at a cost of Rs. 3.5 lakhs, generously donated by Mrs Alice Eichenberger, a Swiss Theosophist. The crafts being taught include plumbing, tailoring, silk screen printing, typewriting and carpentry. It is proposed to add gardening, book-binding and home crafts. A computer has also been purchased.

Summer training camps were held for outgoing students. It is proposed to encourage the students of IX standard to undergo apprenticeship at the Vasanta Press, the Maintenance Department and the Garden Department of the Theosophical Society.

Another highlight was a special Summer Training Programme in May 1989 for about 100 children from various schools under the auspices of the Indian National Trust for Arts and Culture when some pupils were trained in sandstone carving,

making of leather puppets, wood carving and traditional toys.

The Scouts and Guides participated with distinction in the camps and training courses conducted at the Besant Scout Camping Centre. The Junior Red Cross functioned well during the last year. Students and teachers participated in workshops organized by the Environmental Society, Madras.

Banyan—Centre for Educators

In April 1989 the Olcott Education Society formally inaugurated 'Banyan', a Centre for Educators. Its aim is to support the educator as a creative, vibrant human being without adding to his pressures and to build fresh perspectives within the teaching community. It is designed to function as a forum for meaningful dialogue. The inaugural meeting was attended by representatives of many schools as well as members of the Theosophical Society. It was addressed by Mrs Radha Burnier, International President. A meeting of Principals was organized in August 1989 to understand their concerns.

A workshop for Music Teachers was held in October. We also hope to initiate work on the preparation of children's literature.

H.P.B. Hostel for Boys

This Hostel was founded in 1971 as a memorial to our great Founder. It provides accommodation for some of the children studying in the Olcott Memorial High School who have potential abilities, but lack facilities for development owing to their poor home conditions.

The Hostel Committee carefully selects boys in the age group of 6 to 12 years who have an aptitude for study and they continue living in the Hostel until their schooling is completed. All their basic

needs are provided including food, clothing, shelter and school expenses.

As a result of the facilities provided and especially the individual care and attention they receive, the children residing at the Hostel have been found to be faring well. Most boys living at the Hostel are sponsored by individual members of the Society and by Lodges in various countries. The rest of the expenditure of paying staff, maintaining the premises, etc. is borne by the Theosophical Society which is most grateful for support and donations from members. The sponsorship amount per boy is Rs. 3,000 per annum. We now have 16 students in the Hostel.

Social Welfare Centre

At present there are:

- i. Two crèches for 50 children of three months to three years of very poor working or ailing mothers.
- ii. A nursery school for forty children of three to five.
- iii. A family welfare unit offering training in tailoring and handicrafts to about 25 needy women.
- iv. A Medicare Centre functioning under a qualified doctor.

All the children are given milk and bread in the morning and a balanced midday meal. Free clothes are also given. Ample play facilities are provided. The children participated in Independence Day and Children's Day celebrations.

Articles manufactured in the centre are being sold at the Victoria Technical Institute and at the T.S. annual conventions.

MR N. JANAKIRAM
Secretary

THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

Based on the reports received of TOS work around the world, it is obvious that while TS members are rendering whatever help they can to the needy, very few care to channel such help through the TOS and in several cases TOS branches are lax in reporting to their national Secretary. I mention this to indicate that this international report is by no means a comprehensive record of relief work done by TS members and TOS units around the world.

The TOS serves all without distinction of race, creed, sex and nationality and works to diminish the suffering of all living beings, including animals. Above all, it helps to implement the first object of the TS, namely universal brotherhood. The true Theosophist is a philanthropist and lives not for himself, but for the world, recognizing the truth that each man's life is intertwined with the life of all mankind.

The TOS is a channel of international cooperation as exemplified by the wide range of service around the world outlined below.

England

Mrs Madge Hooper, chairman of the TOS in England, reports contributions to various disasters around the world, including Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Armenia, Nicaragua, the Caribbean, Kampuchea and the Afghan refugees. She adds: 'It has been the policy to support small charities and their list has grown from 32 to over a hundred during the 1980's.'

India

Mrs Saraswati Narayan, National Director, reports: We have 19 regions and 86 groups. In most of the regions, education and care of poor children is going on, including nursery schools, supply of

textbooks, clothes and school fees, distribution of milk, bread and other food articles. Help to orphanages and destitute homes is rendered by several units. Medical aid, homeopathic dispensaries and free eye-camps are carried on by some units. The physically handicapped are supplied artificial limbs, wheel chairs, sewing machines, hearing aids, etc. Disaster relief is a regular part of TOS work. A workers camp was held in Delhi attended by representatives from many regions. A Souvenir was published to mark 80 years of service by the TOS in December 1988. A heartening feature has been a growing awareness among TS members of the need to help and cooperate in the work of the TOS.

France

The TOS in France has been continuing its social action, trying to bring material and psychological help to sick and lonely people either in hospitals or at home. Twice a month a ritual is regularly held for spiritual healing. On full moon days they have a special gathering and prayers for the sick and the desperate.

TOS in France sponsored 57 children and students in various institutions, e.g. the H.P.B. Free Hostel at Adyar, Tibetan Refugee student monks in Kathmandu, Calcutta schools for slum children, the Besant School in Madras, and School for Tibetan Refugees in Dharamsala, India.

Another major activity is the collection of clothes (not new but in good state), medicines, eye glasses, etc. for various dispensaries in India, Nepal, the Cameroons, Zaire, Congo and Lebanon. Arrangements are made with a Bombay laboratory for the supply of specialized medicines such as antibiotics, medicines for ears, eye and respiratory organs, as well as bandages,

for various schools and dispensaries in India. Large quantities of multivitamin capsules are also sent.

Australia

The TOS in Australia has continued its active involvement in programmes initiated by AUSTCARE (Australians Care for Refugees) and the Refugee Council of Australia; helps a Buddhist orphanage in Chittagong, Bangladesh, which cares for over a thousand children; helps in the Life Education Programme to help youngsters understand the dangers of drugs; and conducts Holistic Healing sessions. Many TOS members participate in the letter-writing campaigns of Amnesty International for prisoners of conscience. It has supported the Save the Children Fund for many years and sends parcels of synthetic fur fabric to the Kotagiri Women's Cooperative in South India to be made into toys, providing employment to poor people.

During 1989 the TOS in Australia launched a Public Forum on Alleviating Racial Tensions. This was part of the Indo-Pacific Theosophical Conference held in Perth.

Pakistan

The TOS in Pakistan is active in the educational field and animal welfare. They receive money from the Save the Children Fund and channel it to needy persons for scholarships and medical aid. An animal welfare committee is active.

Philippines

The TOS continues to be very active in the Philippines. Prisoner rehabilitation is a key activity. In recognition of its widespread work, the U.N. Volunteer Programme has assigned two foreign volunteers to help in the social work of the TOS in

the Philippines. One is from Bangladesh and the other from Sri Lanka.

East and Central Africa

Several TS lodges in East and Central Africa carry on the regular TOS activities, including supply of books and fees to needy students; distribution of food, clothing, blankets, medicines, tricycles, etc. to orphanages, old-age homes, and the handicapped; and visiting and helping patients in hospitals. Dar-es-Salaam Lodge and Nairobi Lodge hold regular healing sessions. Some lodges run free clinics and dispensaries.

The Roll of the TOS

There is suffering and ignorance all around us—poverty, bad habits like drug addiction, bad character and so on. We must and can help not only with money, but even by a few words of encouragement and a little sympathy. Service before self is the ideal of the TOS. Serve we must but we should not spoon-feed people; rather we should teach them the art of living a self-reliant life. Teach them to do things for themselves instead of walking always on crutches. They will then be able to help themselves and also help others.

Why should we serve others? The simple answer is that we have all emerged from the same source. When we realize the truth of the Oneness of all life, we can appreciate the import of the universal prayer:

'May each who feels himself as one with
Thee

Know he is also one with every other'. This is the secret of universal brotherhood. Our International President has pointed out:

'Service is the total abnegation of self-interest which leads a person to act

for the good of "others", because he realizes that there is no "other". The "other" is part of the whole. Outgoing generosity, openness of heart, and action which emanates from the feeling of unity characterize real service. '

She frequently reminds us that while the fatherhood of God has been stressed, the brotherhood of man continues to be regrettably ignored. Let us all lend a hand to rectify this imbalance.

MR C. SESHADRI
International Secretary

THEOSOPHY - SCIENCE GROUP

Activities at the International Headquarters were along these lines:

1. The Bulletin of the Theosophy Science Study Group, renamed as *Holistic Science and Human Values*, was published four times during the year. The theosophical world view and the Objects of the TS are published in every issue of the journal with the following aims:

- i. The holistic world view in science, technology and other branches of knowledge,
- ii. Human values as the quintessence of culture,

iii. Theosophy as a body of truths in life and living,

iv. Practice of Universal Brotherhood to govern human relationships in the world.

2. Active consideration is being given to bringing the Science Group under the auspices of the International Theosophical Society, with the objectives of augmenting the resources for science activities, improving the standard of the journal, conducting seminars, etc., with the advice of an internationally constituted Board.

DR A. KANNAN
Secretary

REPORTS FROM
SECTIONS, NATIONAL SOCIETIES,
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS,
PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES, ETC.

(Where necessary, reports have been translated,
edited or condensed.)

REPORTS OF GENERAL SECRETARIES

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

Membership has remained more or less the same as last year: 872 in 21 lodges (ten in Kenya, four in Tanzania and seven in Zambia).

In Zambia, Bro. Narharidas D. Patel donated two valuable properties from which substantial rental income is being realized. This will go a long way for the work and propagation of Theosophy in Zambia.

Two seminars were held in Kenya—in December 1988 at Embu on the theme 'From Materialistic to Spiritual Summer' with attendance of 34 delegates and another in June 1989 at Eldoret on *The Way of the Disciple* by Clara Codd. Most of the lodges have weekly meetings, some more often. Theosophical studies go on regularly.

In Zambia, too, two seminars of three days each were held for members—one at Mufulira in April with attendance of 53 delegates and the other at Chilile Bombwe in July attended by 35 members. In addition, four short seminars were conducted by Mr Reuben Thuku, our National Lecturer, with average attendance of 30-40 participants per seminar. Mr Thuku's contribution by way of talks at secondary schools and institutes of higher education is invaluable. This year he also paid a very successful visit to Zimbabwe giving lectures and a half-hour television interview. As a result of his visit, Zimbabwe members have expressed a desire in writing to join our Section which is being considered.

Our 35th Annual Convention was successfully held at Kitwe, Zambia, from 24 to 26 March 1989, with a total registration of 119—91 from Zambia, 16 from Kenya and 12 from Tanzania. In addition to talks there were group discussions and a symposium. Besides enlightening lectures and discussions, the occasion offered a good opportunity for the main workers of the three regions to meet and discuss theosophical work affecting the three regions. A large number of theosophical books was sold during the Convention.

We are donating *The Theosophist* to 15 National Libraries in Kenya, four state-run universities and four newspapers. Press usage of articles on Theosophy is encouraging.

Some lodges in our Section carry on regular TOS activities, including supply of books and school fees to needy students, distribution of food, clothing, blankets, mats, tricycles, medicines, etc. to institutions and running of free clinics. A member of Nakuru Lodge, Mr Devraj Patel has developed a spinning wheel for spinning wool from local materials at a very low cost. These wheels are now being donated to various institutions for the disabled. Several lodges hold annual elocution competitions in schools and colleges on theosophical subjects. Dar-es-Salaam and Nairobi lodges also hold regular healing sessions.

MR KIRAN H. SHAH
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTH

The year commenced with 328 members on the roll and ended with 318. Miss Joy Mills was the guest of honour at the annual convention held in Pretoria and her talk on 'The Heroic Journey, A Pathless Path' won the hearts of all who attended. She also toured the Section drawing good audiences and winning her way into the hearts of all those who came to listen to her.

We participated in the National Festival of Mind and Body held 12-13 August in Johannesburg. Our stall advertised our literature and meetings. This festival is to be held in Durban and Cape Town later on this year and is intended to be made an annual event.

The work in South Africa plods steadily on. The weekly public meetings

in some of our lodges manage to draw good audiences while other lodges do not seem to be faring so well.

It appears that there are many members who have a poor working knowledge of Theosophy, with the result that enquirers are not being given the right image of our teachings. To counteract this situation, we are busy drawing up a comprehensive study course on Theosophy for use in lodges as well as for enquirers. Despite the attitudes of the orthodox churches towards us, there are still many people who are seeking for the Truth, and so it is these searchers that we must serve.

MR ARTHUR BUNTON
General Secretary

AMERICA, CENTRAL

No report

ARGENTINA

Our summer school along with a meeting of the Inter-American Theosophical Federation took place near Cordoba from 18-25 March attended by an enthusiastic group of members. It was devoted to study the World President Radha Burnier's messages. Another congress of the Inter-American Federation was held in Buenos Aires in September.

The Section magazine *Teosofia* continues to be published and distributed free of charge to members. The Publishing House increased its sales, and is expected to become a more effective means of

disseminating Theosophy.

Members from Rosario organized a workshop on Theosophy in January 1989 in the San Rafael Colony.

There are 26 branches, 7 study centres and 536 members. The Vice-General Secretary, Mr V. Fiumanio, and other lecturers toured the Section giving lectures and guiding lodge work. Mrs Nora Spairani was elected to succeed Mr Manuel Farinich as General Secretary from January 1990.

MR MANUEL FARINICH
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Section has had an active and fruitful year, with an expansion of activities and facilities. The annual convention was held along with the fourth Indo-Pacific Conference in Perth during January 1989. This week was a truly international occasion and brought together members from India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka as well as from all over Australia. The theme was 'Theosophy—Authentic Path to Inner Transformation' and the guest speaker was Miss Joy Mills.

Joy Mills also toured the Section. Other international speakers included Colleen McIvor and Jack Patterson from New Zealand. We were also honoured to have our International President, Radha Burnier, pay a short visit to Sydney in May 1989.

Our National Lecturer, Shirley Macpherson, completed her term of office at the January 1989 convention and Gordon Limbrick was appointed to this office. However, Gordon had to retire during July 1989 due to ill health. A number of members from various lodges also gave support to Section work by giving lectures and conducting workshops in smaller lodges and groups.

A major project completed during the year was the building of new premises

for the Gold Coast Lodge, which was opened in March.

Theosophy in Australia continues to be published quarterly with a fifth special issue containing items from the Indo-Pacific Conference in August 1989.

Facilities provided by Section Headquarters include publicity leaflets, audio-cassettes of lectures, study courses and letters to new members. Contact Letters are sent regularly to lodges, groups and national members. Membership now is 1,352, a decrease of five over the last year.

The TOS continues to be active in a number of lodges. Its main national activity was the staging of a public forum on 'Alleviating Racial Tensions' during the Indo-Pacific Conference. The Round Table has had an active year. At the National Camp held during April, Dianne Hames was made Chief Knight for Australia.

We have been working to compile a Training Course aimed at helping our workers. This course is a product of the Theosophical Workers' Education Scheme started by Phil Harris two years ago. The Science Group published two newsletters, started a study group at Blavatsky Lodge, Sydney, and held a panel meeting during the Convention.

MISS DIANNE KAY KYNASTON
General Secretary

AUSTRIA

Regular public lectures and workshops were held in Graz, Linz and Vienna. Our smallest branch in Dornbirn had a heavy loss in the unexpected demise of its President Mrs Miranda Koch. As nobody seems to be prepared to take over the work, we will have to dissolve the branch.

After an interval of four years there was again an Austrian Summer School in Rohrbach near Linz. There were about forty participants from Austria, Germany and Switzerland. We hope to have from now on summer schools regularly each year.

Our Publishing House, Adyar Verlag, which Dr Norbert Lauppert founded in 1947 has been transferred to Germany. We are very grateful to Mr H. Troemel

in Kassel who will continue the work in the same spirit.

MRS MARGARET LAUPPERT
General Secretary

BELGIUM

A study course on Theosophy has been started in Antwerp and Charleroi. Activities at Antwerp Lodge improved with the help of the Dutch Section. The other Flemish Lodge, 'Vrede', in Ghent, has also progressed in the quality of its work.

In Brussels the attendance at the study course on Theosophy is slowly rising. The activities of the four lodges, studying respectively the basic theosophical books, the teaching of Krishna-

murti, Meditation and Astrology, were carried on, as well as the organization of weekly public lectures, with loan and sale of theosophical and other books.

The TS building in Brussels was repainted after many years and the new look is definitely more attractive. The Section has 135 members, three less than in 1988.

DR H. VAN DER HECHT
General Secretary

BRAZIL

During the year under review the headquarters of the Section was moved from São Paulo to Brasilia and the activities of the year were therefore mostly of an organizational nature.

An important landmark of our work was the setting up of a Publishing House, legally registered. The first book to be issued is *Thoughts for Aspirants* by Mr Sri Ram, translated into Portuguese. The book department achieved an increase in the number of titles for sale in Portuguese, Spanish and English.

Much effort has gone into dissemination. Ten speakers (spotlights) travelled through the country to create fresh interest in existing lodges and introduce Theosophy in new areas.

A seminar was held in July at São Paulo to commemorate the centenary of the publication of *The Secret Doctrine*. The tenth Summer School was held in Recife in January 1989 devoted to the study of *The Voice of the Silence*.

The lodges and study groups kept up and increased their activities, holding meetings, courses, talks and seminars. Membership of the Section is now 889. Our magazine *O Teosofista* has received greater support. All TS members received copies of the theosophical newsletter, reporting the news and activities in Brazil.

MR ULISSES RIEDEL DE RESENDE
General Secretary

CANADA

The purchase of a Desk Top Publishing System and a new copier during the year facilitated the work. The General Secretary was re-elected by acclamation for another term.

We have 242 members now. An

effort is being made to increase the membership. Our financial position continued to be satisfactory.

MR STAN TRELOAR
General Secretary

CHILE

No report

COLOMBIA

The work in the Section has been carried on actively in all lodges. Special importance has been given to basic Theosophy courses, with very good attendance.

A group of members give lectures weekly. The themes presented are always related to life and the way to face it spiritually. Recorded tapes of these lectures are sent to lodges outside Bogota to help their study.

The section magazine *Seleccion Teosofica* is published monthly and distributed free.

The quality of its articles is excellent and very much appreciated by readers. It is also sent to other Spanish-speaking Sections.

There is a lot of interest in the evaluation of our work and ways to improve it. A group of members meets twice weekly with this purpose.

New members receive a monthly letter during the first two years in order to guide them in their studies.

MR GABRIEL BURGOS S.
General Secretary

CUBA

No report

ENGLAND

Activity has been well maintained throughout the Section, with two new centres being authorized and one lodge saved from extinction and making a hopeful recovery. Two other centres have ceased to function and two inoperative lodges are awaiting closure.

At the April election, Miss Ianthe Hoskins was re-elected as General Secretary. In the Summer School, on the theme of 'Meditation', the Blavatsky Lecture was given by Dr Yves Marcel of France. The Information Department dealt with about 800 enquiries; programmes and publicity material have developed an increasing professionalism, and the

department has expanded the production of taped recordings of lectures and seminars. In October it was decided to make an admission charge of £1 for public lectures in London, but this has not affected the size of the audiences which continue to average 50 to 60.

The year has not been without difficulties, one of the continuing ones being the shortage of members able and willing to maintain the efficiency of the lodges and the headquarters. Meanwhile, the old ones just carry on.

MISS IANTHE HOSKINS
General Secretary

FINLAND

At the annual meeting held in March 1989 Mrs Kirsti Elo was elected to succeed Mrs Kyllikki Vuorinen. The guest speaker was Miss Mary Anderson who also lectured in two other cities in Finland.

Public lectures were arranged in Helsinki every Sunday and in other cities once or twice a month. The Summer School held at Kreivila 23-30 June 1989 dwelt on the motto 'Seek Out the Way'. The speakers were Mr Curt Berg from Sweden and Mr G. Gautama from India. In the afternoons workshops discussed *The Secret Doctrine* based on video programmes. Participants numbered 120 and the atmosphere was very harmonious.

At present there are 20 active lodges and 4 study groups in the Section. Lodge and study-group chairmen held a meeting during the Summer School.

A seminar was held early in June in the Critical High School (University) on the theme 'New Man: Deeper Reality' with Dr Hans Liljenstrom (member of the Swedish Section) as lecturer. Three other theosophical movements collaborated and there were over 190 participants.

From the beginning of 1989 the Section magazine *Teosofi* was published as a bi-monthly. Earlier it was ten times a year, but the number of pages remained the same. Information letters have been sent to the lodges and study groups every month.

We translated and published two books: *The Marriage of East and West* by Bede Griffiths and *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy* from the writings of H.P.B., compiled by Ianthe Hoskins.

MRS KIRSTI ELO
General Secretary

FRANCE

Activities are going on in Paris and in the different lodges around the country, and also in some African countries. Regular public lectures are given in some towns such as Paris and Marseille, and also courses which are very much appreciated. In the countryside, the meetings of the lodges are partly closed and partly open to the public.

In Togo, with the help of the NEPF, it was possible to print *At the Feet of the Master* in the Ewe language which is spoken in Togo and Ghana. In Togo, too, with the help of the members of different Sections who sent money, it has become possible to begin the building of a Theosophical Centre for African Theosophists specially the French-speaking ones. Togo is the only country in the

French-speaking area of Africa where the TS has a legal status.

The French-speaking Summer School was held in France this year at Imbours, a wonderful place, lost in nature, far from any town. It was a marvellous time for the 90 participants.

For the centenary of the publication of *The Secret Doctrine* a seminar was held in Paris in November 1988, attended by about a hundred members. We invited members of the United Lodge and two of them gave talks. Some young members gave very interesting commentaries on H.P.B.'s Diagram of Meditation.

At the National Convention held in April, Mrs Françoise Caracostea was re-elected for another three-year term as General Secretary. The guest speaker was the

General Secretary of the Belgian Section, Dr Henriette van der Hecht.

The TOS held their annual *mela* at our Headquarters to raise funds.

Our magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* tries to be eclectic, giving news, when possible, from

different theosophical movements around the world. The ten issues each year carry original articles as well as translations from English theosophical magazines.

MRS FRANÇOISE CARACOSTEA
General Secretary

GERMANY, WEST

The annual convention (Summer-School) in St. Martin was well attended by about 90 participants, among them many members of other European Sections. The theme was 'Messages of our Time'. It was a very harmonious and intensive week.

Many lodges held introductory evenings of Theosophy and especially for study of *The Secret Doctrine*. Books published by the German Publishing House 'Adyar Verlag' were studied, as also the *Bhagavad Gītā*. Many well-attended public lectures were given by Mary Anderson, Arne Hansen, Gerda Hoefer and others.

The spring and autumn week-end meetings in the north and south German locations were again well attended and proved to be successful. The General Secretary visited a number of lodges and study groups.

All theosophical movements in Germany jointly organized a congress at Würzburg in October 1988 to commemorate the centenary of the publication of

The Secret Doctrine, with more than 400 attending. Encouraged by the success of this congress, leaders of the different movements again met in April 1989 and agreed to a more intensified co-operation and to hold an annual event.

The third German School of Theosophy was held in October 1988, the main themes being Cosmogenesis and Anthropogenesis outlined in *The Secret Doctrine*. Mary Anderson, Gerda Hoefer and Anneliese Stephan led the study/work groups by turn. Some of the work concentrated on the training of speakers.

The cassette loan library in Berlin and the book lending library in Bremen are being expanded constantly. The English language lending library was also well used. Our journal *Adyar* continues to have about 300 non-member subscribers. This helps to spread Theosophy and draws interested seekers.

MRS EVA MAAS
General Secretary

GREECE

No report

ICELAND

No Report

INDIA

The year was of special significance as we celebrated the centenary of the publication of *The Secret Doctrine* and the birth centenary of Mr N. Sri Ram, fifth President of the TS and the first Indian to become President.

The main publication of the Indian Section during the year was the special issue of *The Indian Theosophist* devoted to *The Secret Doctrine* which was much appreciated. Several lodges studied portions from this *magnum opus* of Madame Blavatsky and the Adyar Lodge published a souvenir to mark the centenary.

Attention was also focused during the year on the study of Mr Sri Ram's books. A study camp was held at Varanasi, directed by Mrs Radha Burnier, to study Sri Ram's book *The Nature of Our Seeking*, during which the participants also discussed the theosophical viewpoint presented on matters of national and international importance in his Watch-Tower Notes.

We are now getting ready for celebrating the Centenary of the Indian Section. We are planning a year-long programme of serious effort to study, imbibe, and propagate the teachings we have inherited. An invitation was sent to hold the 1990 International Convention at the headquarters of the Indian Section.

Several publications have been planned for the Centenary year, including collection of selected Besant Lectures of the Indian Section delivered during International Conventions, and a book on 'Theosophy and the Theosophical Society'. New information pamphlets will be published in English as well as various Indian languages.

Two study camps were held at Bhowali and Adyar, and several others in various federations. A two-day Bharata Samaja conference was held at Adyar. The Delhi Federation arranged a symposium

on 'Scientific and Intuitive Approaches to Reality', inaugurated by the International President. The work of the Theosophy-Science Group has gone on well.

The International President and Vice-President were chief guests at annual conferences of various federations, and gave public lectures and conducted study camps. I was able to visit six federations and also represented the Indian Section at the fourth Indo-Pacific Conference in Perth, Australia. On my way to Perth I stopped at Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Penang giving eight talks and conducting a day-long study camp. The National Lecturers toured the federations extensively giving public lectures, guiding studies and conducting study camps.

There is need to strengthen the work among the youth. The Bangalore City Lodge organized a three-day camp for the youth. Elocution, essay and other contests for the young were held at Bombay, Delhi, Agra and Madras. The lodge at Kanpur arranged a day-long programme for the young at which their parents were also invited. Activities to encourage the young are going on at other places also, but much more attention needs to be given to them.

The Theosophical Order of Service has been active in several regions, but again much more needs to be done.

There was an increase in membership of 199 during the year, taking the total to 9,927. Most of the federations have shown increase in membership, especially those in Karnataka, Madras and M.P. and Rajasthan.

The Indian Section library, which has a valuable collection of 15,000 books is being re-organized. A large number of books were donated by the Section to public libraries.

DR C.V. AGARWAL
General Secretary

INDONESIA

The past year was a very trying year, with the demise of many of our older and experienced members. Membership decreased from 656 to 575. A number of sympathisers attend the 18 active lodges. Though they have been attending lodge meetings regularly for quite a long time and studying Theosophy, they do not seem to be interested in becoming members. They prefer to stay outside the Society, to be free and unattached. Most of them are young students; some are interested only in the occult part of the teachings.

Except for the annual Congress and the celebration of theosophical anniversaries, we had no significant activities during the year. Seventy-five members from 13 lodges attended the Annual Congress held at Cisarua, a health resort outside the town of Bogor. The theme was 'Theosophy—A Spiritual Culture to Meet the 21st

Century'. It was decided at the Congress to form a specific group for research and development of Theosophy, including translation of books and survey of lodges and inventory of historical documents relating to the theosophical movement in Indonesia.

The youth section is still apathetic showing not much interest in the activities of the older generation. We now have a new Commissioner for Youth Affairs, Miss Pranawati Sumana. At the annual congress five groups of the Youth Section participated in discussions and study classes, even in giving lectures.

A symposium was held on environmental problems to explain the theosophical attitude in regard to environment and the new age.

MR H. M. SOESISWO
General Secretary

ITALY

In the year ending 30 September 1989 we registered an increase in membership. It now stands at 1,228. We have 45 lodges and four study groups. At the re-election by referendum, Mr E. Bratina was elected as General Secretary for a seventh three-year term.

Our 75th National Convention, held 25-28 May was attended by a hundred members. Mrs D. Audoin was guest-speaker, with 14 other speakers contributing to the theme.

Our Section journal *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* was published regularly and has 1,100 subscribers—an increase of 140 new ones, including outsiders and several public libraries.

A Seminar was held in Venice 11-16 September on the theme 'The Purpose of Life'. There were 16 participants.

Publications included the fifth Italian edition of HPB's *Key to Theosophy* and the fifth impression of *The Voice of the Silence*.

The General Secretary lectured in several cities. Mr and Mrs de Grandis of our Section lectured at the Summer Schools in England, Germany and Naarden. The Lodge in Turin acquired new premises with contributions from members and the Italian Section. Now we have lodge premises in Trieste, Milan, Turin, Genoa and Rome.

In general the work of the TS in Italy went on fairly well in spite of the usual

difficulties of membership lapses and lack of a deeper understanding of Theosophy by members. This is the work ahead: to spread deeper understanding of Theosophy and to train particularly the chairmen of

the lodges to be more consistent with the aims of the TS which has quite a special function in world evolution.

MR EDOARDO BRATINA
General Secretary

MEXICO

The Mexican Section maintained a steady growth in membership during the year. The increase of 50 brought the total to 330 members distributed over 12 lodges and 14 study centres.

We had a successful Summer School in Metepec, Puebla, with an attendance of 65 members. Prof. Miguel Charneco, General Secretary of Puerto Rico, was the guest speaker. He gave further talks in the cities of Puebla, Orizaba, Ver. and Mexico City, D.F. We also held five Regional Seminars in different cities.

The Department of Education increased the publication of our journal *Unidad* from 400 to 500 copies twice a

month, and the monthly Correspondence Course from 250 to 450 people.

First steps have been taken to begin TOS work with regard to protection of the environment.

The annual convention will be held on 18-19 November in Mexico City, D.F. The Section will participate in the organization of the fourth Latin-American Theosophical Seminar of the Caribbean Area, which will take place from 4 to 8 December 1989 in Caracas, Venezuela. It will be held at the same time as the Seminar of the Theosophical School for Workers of the area.

MR ISAAC E. JAULI DAVILA
General Secretary

MYANMAR (BURMA)

No Report

NETHERLANDS

For health reasons Mr Paul Zwollo had to resign and was succeeded by Dr W.H. van Vledder as General Secretary, who was elected by referendum.

Several seminars and conferences were held during the year. The link with the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden was consolidated by holding meetings there. The autumn weekend, attended by 100 people, was on the theme 'Mysticism in the Light of Theosophy'. The spring weekend 8-9 April admitted

only members and the fifty who attended studied *Viveka Chudamani* led by Miss Ianthe Hoskins. The aim was to give a preparatory view of the book so that it could be studied in the lodges.

Two meetings of Lodge Committees were held (25 February and 7 October) to exchange experiences, to tell each other about the specific problems of the lodges and hear the plans of the National Committee.

The Summer School (5-10 August) was

on the theme 'Human Regeneration', with a full attendance. The lectures in English were translated into Dutch. Two conventions, one for the southern region and Flanders, and another for the northern region were held in September, with 'Higher Love' and 'Theosophy' as the themes.

The Section's publishing work received a new impetus with the starting of the 'Adyar Series'. Two Dutch translations were published during the year: *Ancient Wisdom, Modern Insight* by Shirley Nicholson and *Self-Culture* by I. K. Taimni. The third one will be Joy Mills' *Living in Wisdom*. A series of four leaflets was also published and a second series is planned for next spring. Two brochures,

one by Bowen and another by Audoin, were published in Dutch and four others are ready for printing.

We are now the sole importers of the TPH Adyar publications and incense, and also agents of Quest books and TPH London. Our journal *Theosophia* is published six times a year, one of which is a 'special'. The library is being computerized for better utilization and we have received many book donations during the year.

The work of our Section was directed to emphasize the real aim of the TS and to strengthen the inner nucleus of the lodges.

DR W. H. VAN VLEDDER
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

The Annual Convention was held at Palmerston North with Miss Joy Mills as guest speaker. Miss Ianthe Hoskins toured the Section during February and March, lectured at 22 centres and generated a great deal of enthusiasm. We made videotapes of some of her talks which are proving to be very popular. The Pollock family organized a family camp.

Jack Patterson completed another successful year of taking seminars and giving lectures at all branches and study centres as well as speaking at the Indo-Pacific Conference at Perth. The year saw a remarkable increase in public lectures and seminars.

The cassette library now has 639 master tapes. Our video library is expanding to meet the increasing popularity of this medium. Master tapes now total about 120. Our slide library is being continually updated to help lecturers. Headquarters now services seven study groups. The

headquarters library is well used, with 44 titles added during the year. A complete set of *The Secret Doctrine*, hardbound, has been donated to every university in New Zealand. Some universities are now offering courses in Theosophy. We were able to donate \$700 towards translation of *The Secret Doctrine* into Japanese.

Membership increased by 41, making a total of 1,775.

Theosophy in New Zealand is one of our main forms of publicity, which also keeps members in touch with current thinking relevant to Theosophy. *Probing the Mysteries of Existence*, the introductory booklet by Jack Patterson continues to be the most popular form of presenting Theosophy to the public and will go into the third printing, after distribution of 10,000 copies.

An intensive course spread over three weekends, designed to increase proficiency

in lecturing was attended by 28 people and the participants felt that they had gained considerably.

We are being asked to contribute articles to magazines and to provide speakers for

schools and other groups. It is obvious that to meet this challenge we need more workers capable of meeting the demand.

MR WILLIAM W. JOHNSTONE
General Secretary

NORWAY

The Norwegian Section has worked along traditional lines though slower than usual. We have around 60 members. The meetings at our Centre in Oslo have been monthly, accompanied by an open library and book sales. At our convention a guest speaker from Sweden, Astrid Nystrom, gave a slide-lecture on her paintings with motives from the perennial wisdom in myths and religion.

Two members attended the Swedish Summer School, and one the German. I was asked to become the Norwegian link

of the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden.

Our journal has appeared twice. As I am overworked, Mrs Marianne Chen offered to take over my work as General Secretary, and her election will be confirmed in January.

The Theosophist and the *Adyar Newsletter* are of great inspiration and help to us.

MS AGNES GASEMYR
General Secretary

PHILIPPINES

The past year has been a significant one with the implementation of several major projects. Our new magazine *Theosophical Digest* came out in March 1989 with an initial printing of only 1,000 copies. This issue went through four more printings due to the favourable response both at home and abroad. By the fourth issue, in December, the print run has gone up to 8,000 copies. The magazine makes an appeal to the public with condensed articles.

At the same time, a publication programme was started with *Light of the Sanctuary: The Occult Diary of Geoffrey Hodson*. The first printing of 1,000 copies was largely sold out by the end of the year.

Building a second storey of the headquarters building has greatly expanded the work space including a meditation

room and storage room for books. The bookshop has been expanded to more than double its former size. The new bookstore is now the largest of its kind in the Philippines. The expanded library is a major source of attraction to enquirers.

Another milestone in the Section's history is a Society-owned lodge building in the northern province of Luzon.

We participated in three separate book fairs in Metro Manila during the year, which has contributed to public awareness of theosophical books and philosophy.

The TOS continues its dual programme of Rehabilitation of Severely Malnourished Children and the Self-Reliance Programme. Its work has gained recognition in Metro Manila and in Naga City, where the TOS received a special award from the Mayor. The U.N. Volunteer Programme assigned

two foreign volunteers to help in the social work of the TOS.

The above are the new developments in the section. The other usual services and activities have continued. It is fore-

seen that there will be a need for the Section to develop a larger corps of workers, both full-time and volunteers.

MR VICENTE HAO CHIN, JR.
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

Theosophical work progressed well in the Section during the year with public lectures and symposia at the headquarters every fortnight and branch meetings every week. We also commemorated all TS anniversaries.

The branches continued to give good support for the public meetings. The president of branch Pythagoras conducted a study course on 'The Laws of Theosophy' which interested a large public. Branch Annie Besant organized a three-day symposium on 'Spiritual Values' open to other spiritual groups. It also was a very fraternal gathering. Branches Lotus Branco and Koot-Hoomi conducted courses on *The Secret Doctrine*.

Many of our members and more than a hundred Spanish members attended the 12th Iberian Theosophical Week at Ali-

cante, Spain. The theme was *The Secret Doctrine* and it was a very fraternal gathering and good work.

This year a group of young people asked permission to have a study group near Lisbon in a place where there are many TS members. They are working with great enthusiasm in order to become a new branch in the future. We now have 271 members.

There have been difficulties concerning the publication of our journal *Portugal Teosofico*. We could publish only one issue during the year.

At the Annual Convention in March, the General Secretary was re-elected for another term.

DR MARIA G. NOBRE SANTOS
General Secretary

PUERTO RICO

The TS in Puerto Rico remodelled its premises in Miramar during the year, after the destruction of its roof, doors and windows in Hurricane Hugo. We have applied for a low-interest loan for the reconstruction of a concrete roof that may resist the force of any future hurricane.

We have had regular programmes for members and students in our five branches which has helped integrate our Section. Lecturers from Argentina, Mr Juan Viñas and Mr Vicente Longlois helped us with the work in these five branches.

The Puerto Rican Section helped the

work in Venezuela with the planning of the Fourth Seminar for the Caribbean Basin. Many members from this area are expected to attend this seminar in the first week of December 1989.

The General Secretary taught Theosophy at the Krotana Institute in the first Spanish workshop for theosophical workers held last August in Ojai. Attendance consisted of members from the U.S. as well as countries in Latin America. He also gave talks in the Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Mexico.

DR MIGUEL A. CHARNECO
General Secretary

SPAIN

The Iberian Conference held in March at Alicante was attended by members from Mexico and Portugal in addition to Spain. It was an interesting event. Visiting lecturers at the conference were Mr Isaac Jauli, General Secretary of the Mexican Section, and Dr Yves Marcel from France. Miss Ianthe Hoskins visited the Section and lectured as in previous years.

At the general election held during the year Dr Angel Rubio was elected as the General Secretary. New rules have been drafted which it is hoped will make the functioning of the Section more smooth.

The European School of Theosophy was held for the first time in Spain in the monastery of St John of the Cross in Segovia.

The journal of the Section, *Sophia*, has been a successful instrument for propagating Theosophy. The lodges have had courses in Theosophy, *The Secret Doctrine*, *Light on the Path* and *Esoteric Christianity*. Several conferences were also held.

DR ANGEL RUBIO
General Secretary

SRI LANKA

Activity was minimal during the year. Only four meetings were held during the whole year, with an average attendance of 15.

Despite the adverse conditions that prevailed, we were able to meet in small groups at members' residences for what has been known as 'mini' TS meetings where in-depth studies of theosophical literature were conducted. The attend-

ance at these 'mini' meetings was about five.

It is not possible to report the activities of the other lodges as communication with them is restricted. None of the lodges out of Colombo has furnished reports, although requested to do so.

We hope that it would be possible to furnish a happier report for 1989-90.

MR EDMUND P. SILVA
General Secretary

SWEDEN

Our Section has 211 members. Six lodges have had activities including many lectures on theosophical themes and also study groups on *The Secret Doctrine*, *Bhagavad Gita* and Yoga.

Thirty-five members attended the Summer School with Mr Curt Berg as guest speaker. His lectures were supplemented by a course on fundamentals of Theosophy. A mini-school on the *Bhagavad Gita* held in May was attended by 25 members. Participation by mem-

bers in conferences abroad included: Nine at the European Congress in England, four at the European School of Theosophy at Tekels Park, England; three at the International Convention at Adyar.

We prepared study material in Swedish for four video-tapes on Theosophy. A pamphlet was printed on Theosophical Objects for use of those who want to know about the TS. We also printed a booklet entitled 'Ceremony at the End

of Life' giving suggestions for an alternative funeral.

Annie Besant's *The Theosophic Life* was translated into Swedish and printed during the year. Our bookshop has been open two and sometimes three days a week and the turnover has increased.

We moved to new premises in October. A Tape Centre for sale and lending was started this year.

Our magazine *Tidlos Visdom* (Timeless Wisdom) appeared regularly.

MRS ING-BRITT WIKLUND
General Secretary

SWITZERLAND

A general revival and renewal is perceptible in the Section. We have every reason to look to the future with confidence. During the year the usual lectures were held in Geneva and Basle. The members of all the lodges tried to study and to spread Theosophy. The General Secretary was happy to note that unattached members also studied theosophical literature regularly and do their utmost in daily life to bring understanding and help to their fellow men.

At Christmas time the Geneva group organized a public meeting at which a lay theatre group enacted religious legends of many countries. The meeting was well attended and proved an inspiring and

friendly occasion. Once again a gathering of members from all parts of the Section took place at Glion. Madame Danielle Audoin was the visiting lecturer.

Thirty-three new members joined the TS during the year. The present General Secretary will terminate her six years of office at the end of this year, to be succeeded by Mme. Eliane Gaillard from Geneva, a long-standing member. She is looking forward to organize the Pays Latins Summer School at the beginning of September 1990 as well as other activities.

At the annual convention held in Glion, the chief guest was Mrs Danielle Audoin.

MISS ELIZABETH JENNY
General Secretary

U. S. A.

During the past year, as part of fieldwork activity we explored our theosophical foundations by asking ourselves, individually and in groups, what are the 'core' or 'basic' concepts of Theosophy. In the coming year we will focus on the nature of personal transformation. This topic is related to the third Fundamental Proposition of *The Secret Doctrine*. Whether we struggle with transformation in group work, silent meditation, or in the effort to develop our own human potential to its fullest, as we grow and change so, too, does the consciousness of the world.

Several spiritual retreats were organized as part of the fieldwork programme during the year—at Olcott, Krotana, Camp Indralaya, Pumpkin Hollow and other places. A total of 112 persons participated. In co-operation with the Krotana Centre a curriculum development retreat was also held during which work was done to formulate study guides. 'Theosophy in Brief' leaflets were distributed in large numbers, offering a first introduction to those who have had no previous contact with Theosophy. These leaflets are being systematically revised to suit the times.

Leadership training was perhaps the most innovative aspect of the fieldwork programme and was positively received everywhere. Members from 52 groups attended one of eight training sessions. Participants reported that they received both practical help and inspiration from the training. Eleven more such training sessions are scheduled for the coming year.

The Mysteries of Existence, a booklet developed in New Zealand, was revised and published as a resource for introductory group study. It has been extremely popular and the initial printing of 15,000 was sold out. A second printing is in the offing.

The Fieldwork Department has co-ordinated and co-operated with the Department of Education in the development of new materials, including a year-long introductory course in basic Theosophy.

National lecturers toured the entire Section—250 separate appearances by lecturers to 99 local groups, eight federations and two camps.

The Eternal Quest Radio and Television programmes were expanded as a means of publicizing the Theosophical Society among the general public. Public programmes—lectures, workshops and seminars—were organized by the Department of Education. Five correspondence courses are now offered, with more on the way.

The headquarters library added 529 new titles, 74 audio cassettes and 27 video

cassettes to its valuable collection. A total of 11,061 books were borrowed, including 5,240 taken over the counter and 4,641 mailed.

TPH sales exceeded more than \$1.1 million. Although TPH concentrated on dissemination of Theosophy through book publishing, the year also saw increased activity in the production and marketing of audio tapes.

Our new quarterly, *The Quest*, has received a gratifying response from the public and circulation should be touching the 20,000 mark within a few months.

The Section membership continues to grow—an increase of 118 members making a total of 5,484. We are developing a manual for presidents and secretaries similar to the Study Centre Starter Kit, since many groups seem to have the problem of not passing on materials to new leaders.

The Prison Programme continues its services offering free, slightly damaged books to inmates and prison libraries throughout the country. We also send a free copy of *At the Feet of the Master* to each inmate who contacts us. The prison newsletter *The Light Within* is published quarterly and currently reaches 752 prisoners.

The Kern Foundation made substantial grants during the year which have been of immeasurable benefit to the work.

MRS DOROTHY ABBENHOUSE
General Secretary

URUGUAY

We faced quite a lot of difficulties during the year, including lack of a person willing to assume financial responsibilities. Therefore the office of Treasurer is now taken care of by the undersigned.

I was invited by the Krotana School of Theosophy in Ojai to offer a training

course for Spanish-speaking members, which took place in August 1989. After that I participated in the meetings of the Inter-American Federation at Buenos Aires which finally ended in the transformation of the up-to-then Inter-American Theosophical Federation into Inter-

American Theosophical Publishing House (Editorial Teosofica Inter-Americana), and the formation of an Inter-American Theosophical Federation with rules similar to that of the European Federation.

In spite of my illness in the autumn of 1989, we managed to maintain the twenty-minute radio talks with the help of a young member. Many persons come to the headquarters after having listened to the programmes, and this has proved to

be the best type of publicity for Theosophy in Uruguay.

Several pamphlets were published covering different subjects which are given to visitors and sent by mail to enquirers. We have a big theosophical library which is quite busy lending books.

The different special theosophical days were commemorated in due form.

MRS DOLORES GAGO DE FUERTE
General Secretary

WALES

Study courses together with good attendance at our public meetings give rise to a reasonable feeling that progress is being maintained. The library at Cardiff is used by members and the general public.

Our liaison with the St David University College of the University of Wales has been strengthened by another lecture course to undergraduate students.

MR ROBERT M. PETERS
General Secretary

YUGOSLAVIA

The legal position of the TS in Yugoslavia has been satisfactorily settled after several years. The group of former General Secretary, Emilio Trampuz, named itself 'Pitegora', but claimed before the Croatian authorities to be the TS in Yugoslavia, thus preventing the Section from having public activity. However, on 7 July 1989 the TS in Yugoslavia obtained a decree of registration from the authorities in Ljubljana in Slovenia, with permission to enroll members from the whole of Yugoslavia and carry on normal activities.

We have three lodges and forty-eight members in our Section. The lodge which was formerly in Croatia was moved to Koper, Slovenia. Regular theosophical

activity goes on in all the lodges. Miss Mary Anderson, Secretary of the European Federation, visited the Section several times.

The long announced translation of *Light on the Path* was published with a grant from the Non-English Publications Fund. Also being printed are *At the Feet of the Master* and *The Voice of the Silence*. Two numbers of our bulletin *Teozofska Misel* (theosophical thought) were published, totalling eighty pages.

We held a summer school at the end of July in which 13 members participated. The theme was 'Meditation and Its Procedure'.

MR ANTON JESSE
General Secretary

REPORTS OF REGIONAL SECRETARIES

AFRICA, WEST

We held our annual convention at Accra, Ghana, 23-26 March 1989 during which a revised Constitution was adopted and Mr Paul B. Kwakyi was re-elected Organizing Secretary.

Regular study meetings were held at lodges and centres. Inter-lodge meetings were held at Accra in June and August 1989 at which attendance was fairly good and discussions were stimulating. All theosophical anniversaries were celebrated in all lodges in Ghana, Nigeria and Liberia.

The problem of acquisition of books is now being tackled seriously and we have already made some purchases from TPH Adyar. Only one issue of our journal was produced during the year.

I visited many lodges and had useful

discussions with officers on problems faced by them. Mr Charles Baiden, executive member, visited Slater Lodge in Monrovia and conducted a study course which was much appreciated.

There is steady progress in the construction of the Headquarters building at Accra, but meanwhile the temporary office of the Society continues to be at the Organizing Secretary's residence. Membership totals 404, an increase of 38 from last year.

We gratefully acknowledge receipt of copies of journals and other periodicals from other Sections and look forward to their continued help.

MR PAUL B. KWAKYI
Organizing Secretary

CANADIAN FEDERATION

No report

IRELAND, NORTHERN

Our headquarters are situated right in the heart of one of the most troubled areas in Belfast, but we feel that it is very important that we remain there as our work cannot fail to have a beneficial influence on the whole area and in particular this section of Belfast which is known as 'The Murder Mile'.

We have a small nucleus of dedicated members who work unselfishly and consistently for the Cause. The members' meetings on Wednesday nights are regular and this past year we have studied such works as *The Gates of Gold* by Mabel Collins and *The Reality of the Paranormal* by Arthur Ellison. Our Sunday public meetings are well attended and talks are

interspersed with tape recordings of eminent Theosophists and discussions on such themes as 'The Collective Unconscious' where all present have an opportunity to participate.

Our forty-first Convention held on 4 May 1989 was attended by visitors from Dublin and Holland. The Tape Library is expanding and we are considering the possibility of making copies of the tapes and starting a Lending Library.

Memberwise we may be few, but our hearts are wholly in the work and the spirit of Theosophy is very much alive.

MRS MARIE HENRY
Regional Secretary

REPORTS OF PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES

BOLIVIA

A national Summer School was held in Cochabamba during the month of August, attended by more than 40 members from different cities. Each day of the three-day programme was arranged by the President or delegate of a different lodge. Strong fraternal bonds were

fostered and the programme was a success.

Four lodges carried on their meetings and other weekly activities the whole year. One lodge has become dormant, but two new centres have been formed.

MR MARIO CARIAGA ARAMAYO
Presidential Representative

DENMARK

(See Presidential Address, page 7)

IRELAND

This year has been a very difficult one for us, beset with legal and financial problems. However, we kept the public and lodge meetings going, and now we are going to make a big effort to revitalize the Society in Ireland. There have been a few enquiries from people outside Dublin, whom we are encouraging in the hope that they will form centres and eventually lodges. In the lodge itself we are planning to hold workshops, study courses and courses via the medium of video tapes.

We have lost a few members and gained a few, and with our concentrated activities we hope to form a nucleus that will attract new members. We always end our meetings with a cup of tea, which gives members and visitors a chance to talk with each other, and everyone appreciates this friendly time. We hope that by the New Year we shall have at least the beginnings of a flourishing Society.

MRS WIN WOODS
Presidential Representative

MALAYSIA

There are three active lodges in Malaysia in Seremban, Selangor and Penang, all of which hold regular weekly/fortnightly meetings of members. The text used currently for study and discussion is *The Key to Theosophy*.

In addition weekend retreats and work-

shops are conducted. The Selangor lodge also holds weekly study sessions on the *Bhagavad Gita*. The Selangor and Seremban lodges run Montessori schools.

MR S. NARAYANAN
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

There are four lodges and two centres in Pakistan with a total of 221 members. The lodges at Karachi and Hyderabad meet regularly. The Karachi TS has weekly study classes on theosophical subjects, attended by members and other interested persons. From time to time the lodge organizes public lectures and forums. The lodge held a seminar in March 1989 on 'The Theosophical Movement and Theosophical Service' attended by forty members. Six members spoke on different aspects of theosophical work and the work of the TOS. At the annual meeting in December 1988 new elections took place.

Our monthly bulletin *Theosophy in Pakistan* goes to members as well as over a hundred other interested persons. The Bulletin carried articles relating to the centenary of the publication of *The*

Secret Doctrine in every issue during the year.

The library at Karachi with a collection of 10,000 books is well used. It was completely overhauled during the year. A qualified librarian looks after the library which is open daily from 1 to 8 p.m.

The TOS is very active in Pakistan. Its major activity is educational sponsorship. A large part of the funds comes from the Save the Children's Fund, London. The TOS also has an active Animal Welfare Committee. A Montessori School run by the TOS in the Karachi Lodge premises serves the educational needs of the area.

Mrs Gool K. Minwalla attended the fourth Indo-Pacific Conference at Perth, Australia, in January 1989.

MRS GOOL K. MINWALLA
Presidential Representative

PERU

Public meetings were held on all Saturdays in a rented downtown hall in Lima and we had good attendance. Some people wanted to know more about Theosophy and we held several talks for this select group. As a result we received six membership applications and accepted four members, bringing the total to 27.

We are trying to get a new home in the downtown area. We could publish our magazine, *Krotona Americana*, only once during the year because of an

economic crisis in Peru. The library of 2,000 titles is being more fully catalogued.

Lodge studies were on *Man, God and the Universe* and *Self-Culture*, both of Dr I.K. Taimni. There were also talks on various subjects.

The Rules are being revised and a request has been made to the President to appoint a Presidential Representative.

MRS EDITH PADILLA JOHNSON
Secretary

SCOTLAND

There has been a continued programme of theosophical activities.

The Edinburgh Centre was the venue for the introduction of a new series of autumn talks on the theme 'Life Force'

by Mr Alexander Fraser, a life-long friend of Krishnamurti. His talks drew a wide variety of people and such was the appeal that the projected six weekly talks had to be extended to the spring of this year.

The Edinburgh Centre holds discussion sessions that attract visitors from Edinburgh University and other organizations. The Orient and Blavatsky branches also have their meetings at the Edinburgh Centre.

Glasgow has regular weekly members' meetings—some being talks, others discussions on a previously decided theme. Video programmes have also been used to good effect. Occasional one-day workshops were well attended. The library is open to the general public as well.

We participated in an exhibition on alternative approaches to healthy living at the Mitchell Library in Glasgow, a well-attended event. Our stand displayed material on our founders, objects and history; a variety of TS leaflets and details of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Centres were distributed. Further exhibitions are planned in Glasgow, Edinburgh and possibly Aberdeen. To the community

at large, the TS has become much more visible and active.

The Director of the Video Education Unit, Mr Alan Senior, has been busy throughout the year. He has a working link with Mr Paul Zwollo of the Netherlands and now we have library copies of all the TS videos currently available from America. Both the American and home-produced programmes have proved to be very helpful in the presentation of Theosophy.

Our magazine *Circles* continues to be produced twice yearly and helps to forge an important link with members and the public at home and abroad.

A full commitment by the officers and members has helped to raise the awareness of Theosophy in Scotland. There has been a steady increase in new members this year and it is hoped that this healthy trend will continue into 1990.

MRS MARGARET T. SENIOR
Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

In Venezuela we have two lodges, both in the capital Caracas, but in different parts of the city. Both are active on Saturday evening and Sunday morning with meetings and public lectures which attract non-members as well. Prof. M.A. Charneco, General Secretary of the Puerto Rican Section, visited us twice during

the year and gave some fine talks. He is again scheduled to participate in a seminar early in December 1989. His visits have been very useful and appreciated.

We commemorated all theosophical anniversaries with due solemnity.

MRS MARIA A. BONILLA
Presidential Representative

REPORTS OF FEDERATIONS

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

During the year Mr Curt Berg was elected as Chairman of the European Federation and Miss Tran-thi-kim Dieu as Vice-Chairman. Mr Guido Haas and Miss Mary Anderson continue to be Treasurer and Secretary respectively. I am acting as Chairman until Mr Curt Berg becomes free of his responsibility as International Treasurer and takes charge early in 1990.

Almost all the Sections had summer schools. The European School of Theosophy was held in Segovia, Spain.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman have had a good contact with the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden and given advice about future needs, particularly with reference to accommodation and programmes to make the centre a strong theosophical force. The European Council and Executive Committee meetings took place in the Centre in August 1989.

The officers of the Federation have sought to resolve problems which arose in Denmark, Greece and Ireland. Both in Greece and Ireland, Presidential Representatives were appointed to replace the General Secretaries and the work is continuing though there have been difficulties. In Greece there was much dissatisfaction over the terms and conditions attached to new premises donated to the Section.

Dr H. van der Hecht has been requested to examine the rules of all the Sections in Europe in order to see whether there are

lacunae or discrepancies in relation to the international rules.

A society like ours, which is trying to propagate the common occult heritage of humanity, cannot expect to live without differences of opinion. It is no easy task at all to keep the balance and remember that Theosophy is the mother of many 'children'. There are those who over-emphasize one or other of those children. At a time when so many new movements are being born, mostly dealing with just one or a few aspects originating in Theosophy, it is important for us to understand the independent attitude of the Society and take an interest in the present tide of thought without losing our sense of proportion! In some Sections the interest in parallel movements which have incorporated into their teachings ideas which were originally theosophical and added something of their own has either fascinated or confused some of our members. Our 'freedom of thought' does not mean that a Section as such should favour other lines followed by present-day occult organizations. We should be proud of our inheritance, listen to others, and leave the *individual* member free to find his or her own way.

In conclusion, I thank all my colleagues in the Federation for their cooperation during the nine wonderful and instructive years I have spent as Chairman.

MRS BARBRO MELANDER
Chairman

INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

No report

INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

A meeting of the Federation took place in Argentina when representatives from Uruguay, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Mexico, U.S.A., Puerto Rico, Venezuela and Bolivia were present. It was decided to restructure the Federation, separating the Publishing House from the other activities.

Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende of Brazil was elected as President and Miss

Joy Mills as Vice-President. The rules of the European Federation were taken as the basis for the new rules under which the Federation will work.

The new President of the Federation proposes to visit all the Sections and to make a plan of work after such a survey has been made.

MR MANUEL FARINICH
President

WORLD THEOSOPHICAL YOUTH FEDERATION

As in the previous years, the W.T.Y.F. is still a small group, with members scattered in many countries, as in Brazil, India, Tanzania, England and Holland. Correspondence is maintained between the members to exchange points of view and increase mutual understanding.

The President, Vice-President and Secretary have been in Adyar from December 1988 to May 1989 when there was opportunity to participate in the 1988

International Convention and give some lectures. After India, they went to Europe to meet other W.T.Y.F. members and to reinforce links.

Our magazine *The Universal Man* is issued twice a year.

At the election held in early 1989, Mr Arnaldo Sisson F. was re-elected Chairman for the period 1989-91.

MRS MARINA CESAR
Secretary

REPORTS OF LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

COMILLA (BANGLADESH)

The TS in Bangladesh, represented by one lodge in Comilla, celebrated the centenary of its founding in May 1989 in a befitting manner over a three-day period, which proved a great success.

We held forty-five meetings during the year on varied theosophical and related subjects with tolerably satisfactory attendance. However the lodge suffers greatly

for want of a good library, the earlier rich collection having been destroyed by the Pakistani army in 1971.

We have forty-seven members most of whom are sleeping members. A drive is on to infuse new blood.

REV. D. R. MAHATHERO
President

CAMEROUN

No report

HONG KONG

No report

TEL-AVIV (ISRAEL)

Our bimonthly magazine *Or* (Light) is dedicated to theosophical teachings and published in 500 copies for distribution in Israel. Another activity was the distribution of theosophical books which has expanded magnificently due to the magazine.

We also opened our spring and autumn one-day seminars to the public and had about 100 participants in April and about 75 in October. The seminars were held in the open air in a forest near Tel Aviv. Quite a few lectures were given in other spiritual groups and social organizations. We also had public lectures and intro-

ductory courses of which one is still going on.

Our regular activities were continued, consisting of weekly meetings during which a talk or a workshop is held.

The video films produced by the TS in America were shown once a month.

As in other parts of the world there is much darkness, fanaticism and intolerance in this area and there is much esoteric and exoteric work to do. We will do our best to expand the work and reach as many as possible. Our membership has decreased from 33 to 23.

MR ABRAHAM ORON

President, Covenant Lodge

TOKYO AND OKASA (JAPAN)

No report

KOREA

No report

SINGAPORE

During the period under review, the lodge saw an increase in activities and this resulted in large turnouts at the Saturday gatherings. Membership stood at 95. We were also fortunate during the year to have benefited from the visits of some international lecturers and in particular Mrs Radha Burnier, International President. Others were Sister Annie Tjioe, Sister

Carin Citroen and Sister Peggy Rodrigo.

Our attractive bulletin *Lotus* may be short-lived because of a deficit facing the lodge. However, members have been urged to make voluntary contributions. We are also planning to renovate the lodge premises.

MR TAN KIONG KHOO

President

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS
DIRECTORY 1990

AND

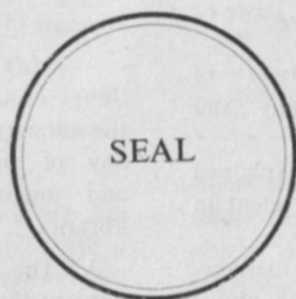
MINUTES
OF THE MEETINGS OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION, ETC

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled 'An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860', that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies

Station, Madras
Dated 3rd April 1905

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 17 NOVEMBER 1875, INCORPORATED 3 APRIL 1905

*In the matter of Act XXI 1860 of the Acts of Viceroy
and Governor-General of India in Council, being
an Act for the registration of literary,
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are:

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

GENERAL COUNCIL

Ex-Officio

President-Founder:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

Vice-President:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

Recording Secretary:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

Treasurer:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, New Zealand.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

Additional

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author [for 2 years]

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired, Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. The Founders

Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded The Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of 'President-Founder', and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. Income and property applied to promotion of objects

The income and property of the Society,

whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. Members of General Council not answerable

No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. Vesting of Property on dissolution

If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions,

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM GLENNY KEAGEY	...
„ ARTHUR RICHARDSON	...
„ PYARE LAL	...
„ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE	...

having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-fifths of the members of the Society present personally or by proxy, at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. Filing of Rules and Regulations, Memorandum

A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this...day of March 1905.

(Sd.) H.S. OLCOTT	„ W.A. ENGLISH
„ SUBRAMANIAM	„ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE
„ UPENDRA NATH BASU	„ ANNIE BESANT
„ N.D. KHANDALVALA	

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED 'THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY', ADYAR, MADRAS

1. General Council

The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. All members of the General Council shall at all times be Fellows of the Society and not fewer than seven members of this Council shall be resident in India.

2. Members of the General Council

(a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not fewer than 5 and not more than 12 Additional Members, among whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. Removal of General Council members and officers

It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of the Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society

and excepting the General Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not fewer than five members.

4. Meetings of the General Council

(a) The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of the Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and a meeting shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

(b) Whenever, at any time or place, a Convention or other function of the Society shall bring together a number of members of the General Council, the President at his discretion may call such members to a meeting for the purpose of study and discussion of any matters concerning the Society that he considers appropriate to lay before them. The meeting may then forward to the President its report on such matters and may make recommendations thereon. Such meetings shall be of a consultative nature without administrative or legislative authority, or may be of a legislative nature upon the decision of the General Council taken at least one year in advance.

In the event the President does not himself attend such a meeting he may appoint the Vice-President or some other member of the General Council to preside in his stead.

The President or his Deputy shall give not less than thirty days' notice of such meeting to all members of the General Council who may be expected to be present at the function that provides occasion for the meeting, but all members of the Council shall have the right to attend.

5. Resolutions

(a) On the request of any member of the General Council any resolution or other item of business proposed by such member shall be placed on the Agenda, and circulated with brief supporting statements, for consideration at the next meeting of the General Council, provided that not less than six months' notice of such resolution or item of business shall be given to the Secretary.

(b) At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

Note: Meetings include adjourned meetings.

6. Quorum

The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting

shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. Who Shall Preside

The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of the Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. President

In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. President's term of office

The term of office of the President shall be seven years from the date of assuming office.

10. Election of President

The procedure for election to the office of President shall be as follows:

(a) Seven months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Executive Committee shall appoint a special Committee consisting of three members of The Theosophical Society in good standing including the Secretary, but excluding any candidate for the office of President, to carry out the election procedure as hereinunder detailed.

This Committee shall be known as the Election Committee and shall be answerable only to the Executive Committee.

It shall be automatically dissolved on the declaration of the voting result.

(b) Immediately on its appointment, the Election Committee shall instruct

the Secretary to send out to the members of the General Council a written call for nominations for the office of President.

The call for nominations shall be sent by airmail or other expeditious means if airmail be unavailable, followed one week later by a second (duplicate) call.

(c) Any member of the Society in good standing, having been a member for at least ten consecutive years immediately preceding his nomination, may be nominated.

Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary, shall be entitled to make three nominations and shall consult his Governing Body before making nominations.

The President shall be entitled to make three nominations.

The Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and each Additional Member of the General Council shall be entitled to make one nomination.

The nominator shall be responsible for ensuring that his nomination(s) reaches the Secretary within ten weeks of the date of the call for nomination.

The nominee shall be responsible for notifying the Secretary, within the above-mentioned period of his acceptance of nomination. One written consent shall suffice for all nominations for that nominee.

(d) At the expiration of ten weeks, the Election Committee shall place all the nominations received, together with the relevant papers, before the Executive Committee at a meeting especially convened for the purpose.

At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations.

The three nominees having the highest number of nominations shall alone be qualified to be on the voting list, but if two (or more) nominees qualify for the

last place on the voting list, they shall both (or all) be included in the list.

No nominee shall be included in the voting list unless supported by at least twelve nominations.

The names of the nominees who thus qualify for inclusion shall be listed in alphabetical order.

This list, as finalized by the Executive Committee, shall be the voting list and shall not be subject to challenge.

However, in the event of a nominee dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, between the date of the call for nominations and the despatch of the voting list, the nomination procedure shall be repeated, commencing within seven days from the notification of the fact to the Secretary.

(e) The Secretary shall then immediately communicate in writing by airmail or other expeditious means (followed one week later by a second and duplicate communication) the voting list together with biographical data of the candidates in accordance with Appendix A to these Rules, to the General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries, and Presidential Representatives and to the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters.

Each General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary and Presidential Representative shall make known the names of the candidates and their biographical data to the members in his area and take the votes in accordance with the instructions in Appendix B to these Rules of the individual members on the rolls of his National Society or area of administration who have been members in good standing for two full years as on the date of the call for nominations, and shall communicate the results to the

Secretary in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B to these Rules.

The Election Committee shall take the votes in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B of these Rules of the members of the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters who have been members in good standing for two full years as on the date of the call for nominations.

The voting results must reach the Secretary within fifteen weeks of the date of issue of the voting list by him.

If only one name remains on the voting list the vote shall be taken on a 'For' or 'Against' ballot.

(f) At the expiration of fifteen weeks from the date of issue of the voting list by the Secretary, the voting results shall be totalled by the Election Committee and placed before the Executive Committee.

Within three days of the closing date of voting, the candidate who has received the largest number of votes shall be declared elected President and shall assume office not later than thirty days thereafter.

In the event of a tie, or of the rejection of a single candidate in a 'For' or 'Against' ballot, or of a candidate on the voting list dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, after the despatch of the voting list and before the final totalling of votes, the nomination and election procedure shall be repeated, commencing within seven days from the notification of the fact to the Secretary, and the President in office or the Vice-President if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President assumes office.

Note: A member is in good standing if his dues have been paid for the last

official year to his Section, Regional Association or Presidential Agency or in the case of Lodges (Branches) attached direct to Adyar and Fellows-at-large to the Secretary or Treasurer concerned.

11. Nomination and election of Vice-President; his duties

(a) Within three months of assuming office the President shall nominate the Vice-President subject to confirmation by the General Council. His term of office shall be at the discretion of the President but when the Vice-President has been three years in office that office shall become vacant by the passage of time and the President, within three months, shall again make a nomination and submit it to the General Council. Notwithstanding this provision the Vice-President shall remain in office and his term shall continue until a successor has been nominated and confirmed. The Vice-President in office may be renominated. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of the Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. Appointment of Secretary and other officials

The Secretary and such subordinate officials as are necessary shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee at its next meeting, the newly appointed officials not being present or voting. The Executive Committee may remove any of these appointees, by a vote of three-fourths of the whole number of its members. In this event, the President shall make a new appointment.

13. Nomination and election of Treasurer

The President shall nominate the Treasurer, following consultation with and approval by the Executive Committee and subsequent confirmation by the General Council for a period of three years. In the event of an emergency, the President may appoint an acting Treasurer with the approval of the Executive Committee until such time as the General Council can confirm a new Treasurer in accordance with the procedure laid down above. The Treasurer may be removed from office by the General Council or by a vote of three-fourths of the number of members of the Executive Committee. In such an event, the President shall nominate a new Treasurer, following consultation with and approval by the Executive Committee and subsequent confirmation by the General Council.

14. Appointment of Executive Committee

(a) The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year or until its next Annual Meeting, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members.

Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-option.

(b) The General Council may delegate to the Executive Committee any of its powers and authority in the management of the business and affairs of the Society except:

(i) The power to amend or repeal the Rules;

(ii) The power to borrow money and incur indebtedness;

(iii) Such powers as are specifically reserved to the President.

The Executive Committee shall have such powers as are delegated to it by the General Council and as are specified in the Rules. The Executive Committee may recommend to the General Council programmes, policies or activities, but it may not initiate projects requiring major funds not within the current approved budget.

15. Meetings of Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not fewer than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. Quorum of Executive Committee

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. Chairman of Executive Committee

The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting

and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. President Custodian of archives; Executive Officer; power to make temporary and provisional appointments

The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of the Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of the Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of the Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. Receipt of moneys

All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Secretary, the receipt of any of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. Deposits, Signatories

The securities and uninvested funds of the Society shall be deposited in the State Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following: the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and any other persons appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. Power of Attorney

(a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of the Society beyond India, at any time and

from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of the Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of the Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of the Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property, movable or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to sub-delegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and release, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

Investments

(b) The funds of the Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public Securities, Unit Trust of India, Term Deposits in Scheduled Banks, fixed deposits and bonds of Government of India undertakings or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages in such property.

Disposal of Adyar Estate

(c) The Adyar Estate of the Society in Madras including the Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a

resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

Transfer of investments and other property

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of the Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21(c).

22. Affixing of Seal, Signatures

(a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to the Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of the Society with the signature of the President and of the Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Transfer of movable property

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of the Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Note: The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21(a).

23. President may Sue

The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. Secretary to affix Seal

The Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of the Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Secretary.

25. Death or resignation of President

On the death or resignation of the President, the Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

26. Headquarters

Headquarters of the Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. Permission to reside

The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person use of any premises or portion thereof in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying such premises under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period. When circumstances warrant it, the fortnight's notice may be dispensed with and

the person shall quit immediately when required to do so.

28. Eligibility for membership

Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in the Society, but those under the age of eighteen shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian, and shall have no right to vote until they have reached the age of eighteen years.

29. Admission to membership

(a) Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge (Branch), the General Secretary of a National Society or, through the Secretary; and a Diploma (Certificate) of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Secretary.

(b) Admission to membership shall be at the discretion of the National Society or the international Secretary, as the case may be.

Membership Date

(c) The date of membership will begin:

(i) When admission has been made through the General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary, or Presidential Representative from the date of acceptance by the General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary or Presidential Representative as entered by him and duly reported to the Secretary at Adyar.

(ii) When admission has been made through the Secretary, from the date of

acceptance of the application by him, and so recorded in his office.

(d) Members may not be full members of more than one Lodge (Branch) at a time, but may be accepted as Affiliated or Honorary Members of Lodges (Branches) other than the one in which they are full members. Affiliated or Honorary Members may possess such rights and privileges as are accorded to them by the Lodge (Branch) in which they hold such membership, but they shall not be founder members of new Lodges (Branches), but if a member becomes a founder member of a new Lodge (Branch), he must become a full member of such Lodge (Branch) and shall relinquish full membership in any other Lodge (Branch). Affiliated or Honorary Members are not to be counted in the international records or vote in international elections other than through the Lodges (Branch) in which they hold full membership.

(e) Without prejudice to the provisions of Rule 10, no member in good standing for less than two years shall have the right to vote in elections and other matters pertaining to Lodges, Federations, Regional Associations, National Societies or other duly constituted bodies of the Theosophical Society. In the case of newly formed Lodges (Branches), or in other special circumstances, the General Secretary, or National Council or Committee, or the international Secretary, as the case may be, shall have the power to waive the requirements of this rule.

30. Lodges and Fellows within a National Society

Lodges (Branches) and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge (Branch), residing within the territory of a National Society, shall normally belong to

that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the consent of the General Secretaries concerned a member who belongs to one National Society may, while retaining his membership of that National Society, belong to another National Society as an Affiliated or Honorary Member, but he shall not cast a vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society in the National Society in which he is an Affiliated or Honorary Member.

When a National Society under its own rules provides for Life Membership in that National Society, such Life Membership shall no longer be effective where a Member resides in the territory of or transfers his membership to another National Society, unless the specific approval of the General Secretaries concerned has been granted.

31. Lodges and Fellows within a National Society but attached direct to Adyar or to another National Society

(a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which

he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge (Branch), for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge (Branch) may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge (Branch) shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge

(Branch) belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge (Branch) vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge (Branch) concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge (Branch), when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges and Fellows where no National Society exist

Lodges (Branches) or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas (Certificates) directly to the Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Formation of a Lodge

Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge (Branch). In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of the Society through the Secretary.

The Presidents, Secretaries and other Officers, including Committee Members, of Lodges (Branches) shall have been members in good standing for not less than

two consecutive years immediately prior to their election. In the case of newly formed Lodges (Branches), or in other special circumstances, the General Secretary or National Council or Committee, or the international Secretary, as the case may be, shall have the power to waive the requirements of this rule.

Three or more members, but less than seven, may apply for certification as an Official Study Centre, but such Official Study Centres shall not be considered as units to be counted in application for the formation of a National Society.

34. President grants, refuses Charters

The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Secretary, and the Seal of the Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of the Society.

35. Formation of a National Society

(a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) consisting of at least 70 members of the Society in good standing.

Formation of a Section

(b) Upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) in areas which are territorially adjacent and in which there are not sufficient Lodges (Branches) for each national group to form a National Society, the President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a Charter constituting such Lodges (Branches) into a Section. The Charter shall confer the same powers as one issued to a National Society. In all respects the rules applying to National Societies shall apply to any group of Lodges (Branches) holding a Charter under this rule.

Formation of a Regional Association

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a certificate of Regional Association to any national or territorially adjacent group of Lodges (Branches) not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgement territorial division or other causes have made such Regional Association necessary or desirable. Any such Regional Association may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of business.

A Regional Association shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Regional Associations and to their chief executives.

Appointment of Presidential Representatives

(d) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Representatives to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of the Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Representative shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. Authority of Charters and Diplomas

(a) All Charters of National Societies or Lodges (Branches) and all Diplomas (Certificates) of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of the Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

(b) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-rule (a), a National Society, Section or Regional Association may cancel the Charter of a Lodge (Branch) within its area. This power shall be exercised by the Governing Body or Committee which is responsible, according to the constitution, rules and regulations of the National Society, Section or Regional Association, for the management of the business and affairs of the National Section or Regional Association.

(c) The Lodge (Branch) may appeal to the President against the cancellation of its Charter under sub-rule (b) within a period of three months from the date of receipt of the order of cancellation of the Charter, and the President may either uphold or quash the order of cancellation. The decision of the President shall be deemed to be effective from the date of the order of cancellation of the Charter by the National Society, Section or Regional Association.

Provided that if the President does not pass an order on the appeal within a period of nine months from the date of receipt of the appeal, the cancellation of the Charter shall be deemed to have been upheld.

Minimum number of members for National Society

(d) If at any time the number of members in good standing of a National Society falls below seventy and the number of Lodges (Branches) falls below five, the President may, at his discretion withdraw its Charter.

In the event of the Charter not being withdrawn, the General Secretary of the Section concerned shall cease to have voting rights as a member of the General Council until the necessary numerical strength is recovered.

37. Rules of Lodges and National Societies

Each Lodge (Branch) and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge (Branch) belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges (Branches) and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows:

(a) In the case of a Lodge (Branch) belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society, and shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgement of their receipt by the General Secretary of the National Society.

(b) In the case of a National Society, or of a Lodge (Branch) not situated within the territory of a National Society, or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31(c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the international President, and shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within nine months of acknowledgement of their receipt.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgement of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge (Branch) which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge (Branch) shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. General Secretary

(a) Every National Society shall elect a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

(b) The General Secretary shall be elected according to the procedure laid down in the rules and regulations of the National Society for a term not exceeding three years. He shall, however, be eligible for re-election for a further term or terms, if the rules of the National Society permit it.

(c) The General Secretary shall generally reside within the area of the National Society and shall not be absent from the area for any period or periods exceeding the limit prescribed by the National Society.

(d) General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries and other Officers, including Committee Members of National Societies and Regional Associations, shall have been members in good standing for not less than three consecutive years immediately prior to their election to the office concerned. Provided that in special circumstances, the National Council or Committee shall have power to waive the requirements of this rule.

39. Annual Report

(c) The General Secretary of each National Society, the Regional Secretaries,

Presidential Representatives and Secretaries of Lodges directly attached to Adyar shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work, along with an audited financial statement of accounts with an English translation where necessary; and at any time furnish any further information the President or the General Council may desire.

40. National Societies known as Sections

National Societies hitherto known as Sections which have been incorporated under the name of 'The...Section of The T.S.' before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

41. Fees and Subscriptions

The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix or vary fees and charges payable to the General Treasury by Lodges (Branches) not comprised within the limits of any National Society; for Charters of such Lodges (Branches); of Diplomas (Certificates) of Membership and for Annual subscription of Fellows of such Lodges (Branches); and in the case of Lodges (Branches) comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, Regional Association, or Presidential Agency for Charters when printed at or supplied by the Adyar Headquarters. The Secretary should inform the General Council within three months of any changes in fees and charges. The Annual Subscription of Fellows other than Fellows-at-large or members of Lodges (Branches) attached directly to Adyar shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the

by-laws or other regulations of the National Society to which such Fellows are attached, or equivalents.

42. Fellows-at-large: Fees and Subscriptions

Fellows-at-large resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the bylaws or other regulations of such National Society, but not less than the fee and subscription fixed for a Fellow-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society.

Fellows-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay such Entrance Fee, Diploma Fee and Annual Subscription as shall be fixed by the President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes in such fees within three months of their being made.

43. National Societies: Fees to Adyar

(a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury fifteen per cent of the total amount of fees payable by members to the Section and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of March of the current year, and the financial year of the Society shall close on 31st March.

Presidential Agencies: Dues

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41(a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Representatives to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43(a).

44. Cancellation of Charter or dissolution of National Society or Lodge

In the event of the cancellation of

any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge (Branch), the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge (Branch), granted by the President, shall *ipso facto* become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas (Certificates), Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge (Branch) shall vest as follows:

Vesting of property of National Society or Lodge

(a) in the Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) coming under Rule 31(c) (except) where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge (Branch) is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest (as hereinafter provided) and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge (Branch) is situated, in the case of a Lodge (Branch) within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge (Branch) not coming under Rule 31(c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge (Branch) whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of the Society except for the purpose of vesting in the Society or in the National Society, as the case may be, the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge (Branch).

Revival or transfer of Charter

(c) Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter

of the National Society or the Lodge (Branch), as the case may be whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges (Branches) being not fewer than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgement shall seem best for the interest of the Society.

Provided further that in cases in which the Charter of a Lodge (Branch) had been cancelled by a National Society, Section or Regional Association under sub-rule (b) of Rule 36 and, on an appeal under sub-rule (c) of that Rule, the President quashes the order of cancellation, all property of the Lodge (Branch) shall again vest in the Lodge (Branch), and shall be deemed to have remained so vested from the date of the order of cancellation of the Charter by the National Society, Section or Regional Association.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in the Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge (Branch) whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which the Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to the Society.

45. Financial accounts

The financial accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

46. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Society shall be held at such time and in such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year, but such Annual General Meeting or Convention must be held within nine months of the close of the Society's year and may be held outside India not more than once in every three years. National Societies desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation at least twelve months prior to the Convention with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. World Congress

Not more than once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention.

48. Special meetings

The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of the Society at his discretion.

49. Changes in Rules and Regulations

The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of the Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. Bylaws

The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such bylaws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

APPENDIX

A: Biographical Data of Presidential Candidates

Each candidate shall submit to the Secretary biographical data not exceeding two hundred words.

The following information shall be included: (a) date and place of birth (b) education (c) past and present occupations (d) date of joining The Theosophical Society (e) work done for The Theosophical Society.

Other information may be included but must be factual and shall not contain statements of opinion or policy.

The biographical data for circulation shall be drawn up by the Election Committee on the basis of the information supplied by the candidates, and shall be approved by the Executive Committee (excluding any candidates for election) before being issued.

B: Voting Procedure for a Presidential Election

Note: Where the term 'General Secretary' is used, it refers also to Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary, and Presidential Representative. Where the term 'Section' is used, it refers also to National Society, Regional Association and Presidential Agency.

(a) The Section shall print the voting papers and biographical data as soon as the names of the nominees are announced.

Where practicable, in the view of the General Secretary, all the papers should be in the language(s) of the area.

It shall be the responsibility of the General Secretary, to ensure that the voting papers together with the biographical data in full are sent to each member.

Other material concerning the candidates shall not be circulated.

(b) The voting papers shall consist of two parts: the voting slip, and the letter form which the member signs and addresses to the General Secretary.

Each member shall be given two envelopes, a small one in which he will place only the voting slip and seal it, and a larger one addressed to the General Secretary, in which he will enclose the small sealed envelope and the letter form signed by him.

(c) As the papers are received, the General Secretary, with the scrutineers appointed by the Executive Committee of the Section (preferably not members of that committee), shall open the larger envelopes addressed to him to ensure the validity of the votes by checking the eligibility of the voter who has signed the letter form.

He shall then put the small sealed envelopes containing the voting slips into a sealed box.

This box shall be opened on the appointed day by the scrutineers. Voting papers received after this date shall be treated as invalid and shall be destroyed unopened.

The scrutineers shall open the small envelopes and count the votes given to each candidate (or the number of 'For' or 'Against' votes if there is but one candidate).

(d) The General Secretary shall record the result of the count on Form C which will be supplied from the Secretary's Office at the same time as the list to be voted upon.

He shall place Form C in the small

envelope labelled 'Voting Result. Section', seal the envelope and enclose it in the larger envelope addressed to the Secretary.

This must be sent by airmail or other expeditious means to reach the Secretary within fifteen weeks from the date of issue of the voting list by him.

(e) The small envelope containing the voting results of the Section shall be kept unopened in a sealed box by the Secretary until the close of voting.

It shall then be opened by the Election Committee.

The larger envelope shall be kept separately and shall not be destroyed until after the voting results are announced, and under the authority of the Executive Committee.

(f) If the voting returns have not been received by the Secretary within twelve weeks of the date of issue of the voting

list by him, he shall cable the General Secretary concerned, informing him of this fact.

The General Secretary shall immediately send to the Secretary by airmail or other expeditious means a second (duplicate) voting return in a sealed envelope marked 'Duplicate'.

Cabled results will not be accepted.

Voting results received after the closing date will be destroyed unopened by the Secretary in the presence of three members of the Executive Committee, nominated by the said Committee, and the particulars of the Section from which the voting results were received and the date on which they were received, shall be recorded in writing, and the Secretary and the three members of the Executive Committee shall affix their signatures thereto.

DIRECTORY 1990

Ex-Officio Members of the General Council

President: MRS RADHA BURNIER

Vice-President: MR SURENDRA NARAYAN

Secretary: DR HUGH GRAY

Treasurer: MR S. S. VARMA

National Societies, Regional Associations and Presidential Agencies

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr Kiran H. Shah	... 55A Third Avenue Parklands, P.O. Box 48507, Nairobi, Kenya
1909	Africa, South	... Mr Arthur Bunton	... P.O. Box 22023, Kloofsig, 0034
1956	Africa, West *	... Mr P.B. Kwakyi	... P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana
1929	America, Central	... Mr Ernesto Aguilar Castro	... P.O. Box 1595, San Salvador, El Salvador
1920	Argentina	... Mrs Nora Spairani	... Pje. Florencio Balcarce 71, 1405 Buenos Aires
1990	Asia, South-east †	... Mr K. K. Tan	... 315 Outram Road, No. 14-03 Tan Boon Liat Bldg, Singapore 0316
1895	Australia	... Miss Dianne Kay Kynaston	... 4th Flr., 484 Kent St., Sydney, N.S.W. 2000
1912	Austria	... Mrs Margaret Lauppert	... Postfach 655, A—8011, Graz
1911	Belgium	... Dr H. van der Hecht	... 166 Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels
1965	Bolivia †	... Mr Mario Cariaga Aramayo	... Casilla 2083, La Paz
1920	Brazil	... Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende...	... Sociedade Teosofica no Brasil, SGAS—Quadra 603 No. 20 CEP 70. 200 Brasilia (DF)
1919	Canada	... Mr Stan Treloar	... R.R. No. 3, Burk's Falls, Ont. POA 1CO
1924	Canada *	... Mr George H. Duguay	... 443 Hamel Street, Laval, Quebec, H7P 3L5
1920	Chile	... Mr Mauricio Froimovich	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1937	Colombia	... Mr Gabriel Burgos S.	... Carrera 6A, No. 56-40, Bogota
1905	Cuba	... Dr Luis Manuel Celema Delgado	... P.O. Box 6365, Havana
1918	Denmark †	... Mr Uffe Vilstrup	... Lars Nielsens Vej 13, DK-2970 Horsholm
1888	England	... Miss Ianthe Hoskins	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1H 3HJ
1907	Finland	... Mrs Kirsti Elo	... Vironkatu 7c2, 00170, Helsinki 17
1899	France	... Mrs Françoise Caracostea	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris
1902	Germany, West	... Mrs Eva Maas	... D-6450 Hanau/M, 1, Friedrich Ebert-Anlage 9
1928	Greece	... Mr P. Adjakas	... 25, Voukourestiou Street, 106 71 Athens
1921	Iceland	... Mr Einar Adalsteinsson	... Ingolfsstraeti 22, Reykjavik

1891	India	...	Dr C. V. Agarwal	...	The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010
1912	Indonesia	...	Mr H.M. Soesiswo	...	Jalan Oto Iskandardinata III/G. 336, Jatinegara, Jakarta Timur
1949	Ireland, Northern*	...	Mrs Marie Henry	...	30 Hillsborough Drive Off Woodstock Road Belfast BT6 9DS
1919	Ireland, Rep. of †	...	Mrs W. Woods	...	31 Pembroke Road, Dublin 4
1902	Italy	...	Mr Edoardo Bratina	...	via E. Toti 3, (Post Box 1252) 34131 Trieste
1912	Myanmar	...	U Tin Hlaing	...	No. 102, 49th Street, East Rangoon
1919	Mexico	...	Mr Isaac Jauli Davila	...	3 Poniente No. 724-A, 72000 Puebla, Pue
1897	Netherlands	...	Dr W. H. van Vledder	...	Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam
1896	New Zealand	...	Mr W.W. Johnstone	...	18 Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3
1913	Norway	...	Ms Marianne Chen	...	12 C. N-0650, Oslo 6
1948	Pakistan †	...	Mrs Gool K. Minwalla	...	'Q' House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framroze Road, Bath Island, Karachi 0402
1924	Peru †	...	Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	...	Apartado Postal 4414, Lima 100
1933	Philippines	...	Mr Vicente Hao Chin Jr	...	Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City
1921	Portugal	...	Dr Maria G. Nobre Santos	...	Campo Martires da Pátria 69, r/c- Dto., Lisbon 1
1925	Puerto Rico	...	Mr Miguel A. Charneco	...	G.P.O. Box 1766, San Juan, 00936
1910	Scotland †	...	Mrs Margaret T. Senior	...	12 Granary Park, Rafford, by Forres, Morayshire, IV 36 OJZ
1921	Spain	...	Dr Angel Rubio	...	Pau Claris 77, 3º, 1ª 08010 Barcelona
1926	Sri Lanka	...	Mr Edmund P. Silva	...	49 Peterson Lane, Colombo 6
1895	Sweden	...	Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	...	Kalle Posts vag 48, S-702 29 Orebro
1910	Switzerland	...	Miss Eliane Gaillard	...	17 ch de la Côte, CH—1282 Dardagny, Geneva
1886	United States of America	...	Mrs Dorothy Abbenhouse	...	P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60189-0270
1925	Uruguay	...	Mrs Dolores Gago de Fuerte	...	Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo
1953	Venezuela †	...	Mrs Maria A. Bonilla	...	Apartado 2907, Caracas
1922	Wales	...	Mr R. M. Peters	...	17 Duffryn Avenue, Lakeside, Cardiff CF2 6LE
1925	Yugoslavia	...	Mr Anton Jesse	...	Kremzarjeva 18, 61000 Ljubljana

**The Council of the European Federation
of National Societies:**

Chairman: Mr Curt Berg, Sparrisbacken 63,
S-162 37, Vallingby, Sweden

Inter-American Theosophical Federation:

President: Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende, Sociedade Teosofica
no Brasil, SGAS—Quadra 603, No. 20,
CEP 70.200, Brasilia (DF)

Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation:

President: Mr S. Narayanan, 12 Lorong Damansarah Endah
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

World Theosophical Youth Federation:

Chairman: Mr Arnaldo Sisson F., Caixa Postal 10360, Porto
Alegre, 90000 Brazil

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

Additional Members of the General Council

MRS GOOL K. MINWALLA, 'Q' House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framroze Road, Bath Island, Karachi 4, Pakistan (for 1989, 1990 and 1991)

MR JAMES S. PERKINS, 29 Taormina Lane, Taormina, Ojai, California 93023, U.S.A. (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

DR HUGH SHEARMAN, 36, Cliftonville Road, Belfast BT 146 JY, Northern Ireland (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MRS EMILY SELLON, 949, Forest Ave., Rye, N.Y., U.S.A. (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MISS JOY MILLS, Krotana 22, Ojai, California 93023 U.S.A. (for 1989, 1990 and 1991)

MRS NORMA Y. SASTRY, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600 020, India (for 1988, 1989 and 1990)

MRS BARBRO MELANDER, Beleshogsv 15, S-21618 Malmo, Sweden (for 1989, 1990 and 1991)

MR S.S. VARMA, B-6/8 Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110 057, India (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MR WALTER BALLESTEROS, Carrera 6, No. 56-40 Bogota-2, Colombia (for 1989, 1990 and 1991)

MR CURT BERG, Sparrisbacken 63, S-162 37 Vallingby Sweden (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MINUTES

Of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held at Adyar on 25 December 1989 at 8 a.m.

PRESENT

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for Uruguay, Philippines, Norway, Switzerland and France</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Chile, Colombia, Holland, Italy and Mrs Gool Minwalla</i>
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	<i>Secretary and proxy for South Africa, Argentina, Sri Lanka and Mr Conrad Jamieson</i>
Mr Curt Berg	<i>Treasurer and proxy for Belgium, Austria, Finland and Sweden</i>
Miss Joy Mills	<i>Additional Member and proxy for USA, Germany, Australia, Brazil and Mr Walter Ballesteros</i>
Miss Ianthe Hoskins	<i>General Secretary, England, and proxy for New Zealand and Spain</i>
Mr Miguel A. Charneco	<i>General Secretary, Puerto Rico, and proxy for Mexico</i>
Mr Kiran H. Shah	<i>General Secretary, East and Central Africa</i>
Dr C.V. Agarwal	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mrs Barbro Melander	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr C.R.N. Swamy	<i>„</i>
Mr S.S. Varma	<i>„</i>

Present by invitation as Observer

Mr Pedro Oliveira, Brazil

The President welcomed those present and read the list of Proxies.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the General Council held at Adyar on 25 December 1988 and 1 January 1989, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters arising out of the minutes

St Michael's Centre, Naarden

The President as well as Mrs Barbro Melander, Acting Chairman of the European Federation, reported that the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden had taken steps to create closer links with the theosophical work in Europe. The Council of the

European Federation had met there and the Belgian Section had conducted a seminar at the Centre. Plans are being made to have two consecutive seminars on Human Regeneration in July 1990 with the International President leading them. The progress of the Centre is satisfactory.

World Congress

Miss Joy Mills recommended that a World Congress be held in Costa Rica. The Council agreed to hold one in the Latin American area in 1992 or 1993. The President said she would discuss the matter with the President of the Inter-American Federation during her January visit to Brazil and examine whether Costa Rica is the best venue from the point of view of accommodation, availability of workers and costs.

Foundation Fund, America

It was reported that the name of the fund had been changed back to ABC Fund.

3. Confirmation of Voting

(a) *Amendments to Rules and Regulations*

The following amendments had been circulated for voting (changes in italics):

i. *Rule 10 (d) [to be added to the end of 10 (d)]*

However, in the event of a nominee dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, between the date of the call for nominations and the despatch of the voting list, the nomination procedure shall be repeated, commencing within seven days from the notification of the fact to the Secretary.

The voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
35	—	—	—	35

ii. *Rule 37 (para 2)*

All Rules of Lodges (Branches) and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows:

(a) In the case of a Lodge (Branch) belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society, and *shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgement of their receipt by the General Secretary of the National Society.*

The voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
35	—	—	—	35

Rule 37 (para 3)

(b) In the case of a National Society, or of a Lodge (Branch) not situated within the territory of a National Society, or of a Lodge directly attached

to Adyar under Rule 31(c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the *International President*, and shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within nine months of acknowledgment of their receipt.

The voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
34	1	—	—	35

iii. *Rule 39*

The General Secretary of each National Society, the *Regional Secretaries*, *Presidential Representatives* and *Secretaries of Lodges* directly attached to Adyar shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work, along with an audited financial statement of accounts with an English translation where necessary; and at any time furnish any further information the President or the General Council may desire.

The voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
30	3	2	—	35

All the above amendments, having received the required number of votes, were declared adopted.

- (b) *Election of Mr Surendra Narayan as Vice-President for three years from 1 January 1990 and of Additional Members of the General Council for the years 1990, 1991 and 1992*

The voting was:

<i>Name</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan as Vice-President	35	—	3	—	38
Mr James Perkins, Additional Member	36	—	2	—	38
Mr Curt Berg, Additional Member	37	—	1	—	38
Mr S.S. Varma, Additional Member	36	—	2	—	38
Mr Hugh Shearman, Additional Member	35	1	2	—	38
Mrs Emily Sellon, Additional Member	38	—	—	—	38

Mr Surendra Narayan and the five above-named nominees were declared elected as Vice-President and Additional Members of the General Council respectively for the years 1990, 1991 and 1992.

4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee for the year ending 30 September 1989

The report for the year was presented by the Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan.

It was pointed out that the committee had been appointed for three years and therefore no new appointment would be needed till 1992. Mr Conrad Jamieson and Mr Curt Berg were members in their official capacity and will be replaced by the new International Secretary and Treasurer.

The Council recommended that an appeal should be made for increasing the fund in the United States.

5. Report of the International Finance Committee for the year ending 30 September 1989

The report was presented by the Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan. This committee, too, had been appointed for three years until 1992. Mr Conrad Jamieson and Mr Curt Berg were members in their official capacity and will be replaced by the new International Secretary and Treasurer.

6. Report of the Executive Committee for the year ending 30 September 1989

Salient points from the Executive Committee's minutes were received. The following were appointed as members of the Committee for 1990:

Mrs Radha Burnier	President	(Ex-officio)
Mr Surendra Narayan	Vice-President	„
	Secretary	„
	Treasurer	„
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	General Council Member	
Mr S.S. Varma	General Council Member	
Mr R. Gopalaratnam		
Mr Ch. Sankar Rao		
Mr K. Visvanathan		

7. Problems in Europe

The President proposed to take up item No. 11 on the agenda before the other items as Mrs Barbro Melander was scheduled to leave on 30 December and would not be present at the adjourned meeting of the Council to be held on 1 January 1990.

(a) Denmark

After a short introduction by the President, the Acting Chairman of the European Federation, Mrs Barbro Melander, gave a brief account of events in the Danish Section during the last few years as she had seen it. Mr Curt Berg also gave an account and reported on the letter of 17 March 1989 from White Lotus Lodge in Denmark in which the Lodge applied for direct affiliation to Headquarters at Adyar. Mr Hardy Bennis, then General Secretary, had replied in detail with regard to the complaints of the Lodge. Following this, investigations were made by Mr Curt Berg, International Treasurer, and

Mr Guido Haas, Treasurer of the European Federation, on the President's request. Mr Berg also gave a brief account of the results of these investigations incorporated in their report dated 15-12-89, which had been handed over to the President. Copies of the report were given to the Council members present.

The President reported that the whole matter was considered carefully by the Executive Committee at Adyar, which unanimously advised the withdrawal of the Charter of the Danish Section. This was done and Mr Uffe Vilstrup was appointed as Presidential Representative on 19-8-89. This action was based on the evidence received as of that date, particularly about the decision of the Governing Body of the Danish Section to summon a meeting in order to form a Foundation completely independent of the Danish Section of the T.S. to which all the assets of the Section were to be transferred.

The President further presented the contents of a letter of the former General Secretary, Mr Hardy Bennis, dated 30-11-89, which it was found had been received by some Council members present.

After considering all the relevant factors the Council resolved as follows:

(1) The Council gives its full support to the President's action of withdrawing the charter of the Danish Section and of appointing Mr Uffe Vilstrup as the Presidential Representative in Denmark, authorizing him to take custody of the assets and records of the Section.

(2) With reference to the letter of Mr Hardy Bennis dated 30-11-89, the Council was of the view that in its judgement the letter was based on numerous misunderstandings and misinterpretations.

(a) Facts do not support the allegation that the President had ever under her presidentship interfered with the constitutional freedom of any Section.

(b) Even if the possibility of withdrawing the Section's charter had been mentioned during discussions by Mr Berg and Mr Haas in connection with the letter of the White Lotus Lodge, the transfer of the assets of the Section to a body over which the Theosophical Society has no control, is a serious violation of the rules of the Danish Section and those of the international T.S.

(c) From the report from Mr Berg and Mr Haas concerning their investigations in Copenhagen it is clear that on most of the points they found unsatisfactory dealing and even serious irregularities in conducting the affairs of the Section. The objectivity of their report indicated that neither of them had come to prior conclusions beforehand or during the investigations. Statements in the letter of Mr Bennis in this regard are clear misinterpretations.

(d) The appointment of the Presidential Representative, authorizing him to take into his custody the assets and records of the Danish Section had the sole purpose of keeping these assets for the future benefit of the Theosophical Society in Denmark, which continues to exist, although now headed by the Presidential Representative. The status

of the Lodges and members in Denmark is in no wise changed. There was and is no intention of transferring any assets to Headquarters in India. The allegation in Mr Bennis' letter that the President has 'ordered that all Danish means be realized and the money be transferred to Adyar' is not true, as can be seen from the Minutes of the Executive Committee dated 19-8-89.

(3) It was resolved to send a copy of the extracts of the minutes pertaining to the Danish Section to Mr Hardy Bennis and Mr Uffe Vilstrup for their information.

(b) Greece

Mrs Barbro Melander reported on happenings in Greece. During the time of the previous General Secretary, Mr C. Melissaropoulos, a proposal by Mrs T. Boghiatoglou to donate conditionally an apartment to the Greek Section was rejected. After his death, the then Acting General Secretary Mr P. Adjakas, and the Section's Council had reversed the decision and accepted her donation of an apartment to the Section on conditions which are not in consonance with the character and rules of the T.S. There had been much dispute on this point and some members had resigned. The main conditions were that the picture of Jesus should be displayed in the lecture hall with those of H.P.B. and the donor on either side; that the donor would be honorary President of the Section for life; that a new Lodge must be chartered to propagate the Alice Bailey teachings; the donor would have the right to bring any lecturers she pleased to speak in the premises and also maintain her private office there.

The Acting Chairman of the European Federation and the International President had pointed out that in a democratic body such as the T.S. it is undesirable to have an honorary president for life; that the Section could not charter Lodges as the constitution of the T.S. vests this right only in the International President; the rules of the Greek Section, which provided for the issue of charters by the Section, must be amended as they do not accord with the international rules. They cannot be considered as always valid simply because approval was given at some time to them.

The General Council supported the above view and also directed that the General Secretary of the Greek Section be clearly advised to ensure that exclusive prominence is not given to any one religion at the Section headquarters or in the Section's work, nor should emphasis be on one particular presentation such as that of Alice Bailey, as this would be out of character with the T.S. The President said she would write to the General Secretary on these matters. Mr Curt Berg, Chairman of the European Federation, was requested to visit Greece himself or arrange for a suitable person to go there.

(c) Ireland

The President reported that Mr Matthew Finnegan, former General Secretary, had not sent any reports, returns of membership or dues during the whole time he was General Secretary. He had debarred elected officers of the Society from entering its premises and a no-confidence motion had been brought against him. The situation became so unsatisfactory that on 7 January 1989 she had withdrawn the Charter of the Irish Section which for years had not had the minimum of five Lodges and seventy members in

good standing to retain its status as a Section according to Rule 36. Mrs Win Woods had been appointed as Presidential Representative for Ireland. Matters went to court, but the decision was in favour of the T.S. The court recognized that the withdrawal of the Charter was according to the Rules of the Society. The T.S. in Ireland thus continues to hold title to the property. During the past few months, matters had improved and there was hope of greater energy in the work in the future.

The Council meeting was adjourned to 8 a.m. on 1 January 1990.

MINUTES

Of the Adjourned Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held at Adyar on 1 January 1990 at 8 a.m.

PRESENT

All those present at the meeting of 25 December 1989 with the exception of Mrs Barbro Melander and Mr C. R. N. Swamy

7. Problems in Europe—Denmark (contd.)

The minutes relevant to the problem in Denmark were presented to the Council and approved.

8. Treasurer's Report and Accounts

The Treasurer's report and the accounts for the year ending 31 March 1989 were considered and approved after discussion. The President informed the Council that Mr S.S. Varma had agreed to be Acting Treasurer, which the Council approved.

9. Budget for the Year ending 31 March 1991

The budget (revenue and capital) was discussed and approved.

10. Appointment of Auditors

Messrs Fraser & Ross were appointed as auditors for the year ending 31 March 1991 on the same terms and conditions as before.

11. Welsh General Secretary's Proposal

This had been circulated.

(a) The Council decided that there is no need for an international committee as proposed by the Welsh General Secretary.

Miss Joy Mills said that discussion by members in the Sections about the objects of the Society, nature of our work, etc. is helpful as it increases awareness. She suggested that an important question or subject should be circulated every year for members in the Sections to discuss.

The Council agreed that it is necessary to encourage members to explore the objects of the Society and their implications. The content of presentation should also be examined along with the methodology used. Members should be made aware of the structure and history of the T.S. and its role in bringing about the progress and perfection of humanity as envisioned by the wisdom tradition. Sections should be advised to send reports of such discussions to the International Secretary at Adyar.

The level of study, understanding and exposition needs to be raised. Miss Mills mentioned that the American Section had developed a new study course in order to enhance the level in that Section.

- (b) The following proposed amendment to Rule 5 (a) is to be circulated for voting: 'On the request of any member of the General Council any resolution or other item of business proposed by such member shall be placed on the Agenda, and circulated with brief supporting statements, for consideration at the next meeting of the General Council, provided that not less than *three months' notice* of such resolution or item of business shall be given to the Secretary.'

12. Any other business

(a) *Rules of Sections*

It was decided that a letter should be sent to the General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, etc. to the effect that their rules must be amended from time to time whenever changes in the international rules rendered it imperative.

(b) *Presidential Representatives*

The following guidelines were approved for administration of areas under Presidential Representatives:

1. The functions and duties of the Presidential Representative shall be:

- (i) He shall be the channel of official communication between the President on the one hand and the Lodges and Centres situated within his territory on the other hand.
- (ii) He shall in the event of a Presidential election discharge the duties cast on a Presidential Representative under the said Rules, more particularly described in Rule 10 (c) thereof.
- (iii) In case an application for admission to membership in the Society is made by a person residing within his territory, the Presidential Representative may, if he is satisfied that the applicant fulfils the requirements for membership, accept the same and report accordingly to the International Secretary at Adyar. He shall maintain a record of all such applications showing the date of acceptance by him duly reported to the International Secretary.
- (iv) In case an application for being chartered as a Lodge is made by seven or more members of the Society residing within his territory, the Presidential Representative shall forward the same, along with the necessary fees payable by the applicants, to the International Secretary at Adyar for necessary action by the President.

- (v) He shall collect every year the annual subscription payable by each member residing within his territory and remit 15% of the total amount of the fees and dues collected by him to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of September of the current year. He shall maintain regular accounts of all such receipts and remittances.
- (vi) He shall at regular intervals visit the Lodges and Centres in his territory and organize conventions, seminars, study classes or any other activity as he may deem proper for spreading Theosophy.
- (vii) He shall maintain regular accounts of all income and expenditure and send an audited statement of accounts to the Treasurer at Adyar each year not later than the first day of November.
- (viii) He shall forward to the President annually not later than the first day of November a report of the year's work of the Society in his territory and furnish information that the President may at any time require.
- (ix) He shall carry out the instructions that the President may issue to him from time to time.

2. A Consultative Committee of not less than three members to aid and advise the Presidential Representative may be nominated by the members in the concerned area, subject to approval by the President. The said committee shall consist of such number of persons as the President deems fit. When he deems it necessary, the President may call on the members to make fresh nominations to replace one or more members of the Consultative Committee.

(c) *Addition or Amendment of Objects*

The Council reiterated that no addition, subtraction or amendment of the three objects of the Society shall be made by any Section or unit of the Society. Where it is considered necessary or advisable, a Section may add a preamble which is consistent with the objects and elucidates them.

(d) *Theosophy-Science*

There was discussion about the need for relating scientific perspectives with Theosophy. The journal published from Adyar should be of high quality and a yearly publication which is internationally acceptable might be brought out rather than a quarterly.

(e) *Subba Row Medal*

Miss Joy Mills proposed that the Subba Row Medal should be awarded to Mrs Virginia Hanson. The Council accepted the proposal.

(f) *Institute for Religious and Philosophical Studies*

It was decided to establish an Institute for Religious and Philosophical Studies at Adyar to promote a deeper awareness of the true meaning of religion and the importance of philosophy in the development of mankind. The Master Plan of the Adyar Estate should be redrawn to include such an institute and ancillaries such as staff quarters. It should also include a Training School for theosophical lecturers and workers.

(g) *Theosophical Encyclopaedia*

It was reported that Mr Philip Harris had formed an editorial board for preparing a theosophical encyclopaedia. He had written to the Secretary that the matter had not been properly considered by the General Council. After due consideration the Council was of the view that the Society should not officially undertake publication of the encyclopaedia. On the other hand, consideration may be given by T.P.H. to bringing out once in ten years a Theosophical Handbook including brief biographical and historical data.

(h) *Guidelines for Lodges and Study Centres*

It was reported that draft guidelines were received from Miss Joy Mills, but Dr Hugh Shearman who was requested at the Consultative Meeting of the Council held in England to send his suggestions had not responded so far. It was decided to circulate a draft for comment and suggestions by Council members.

(i) *Concern about Sexist Language*

Miss Joy Mills urged that just as racial bias should be avoided in theosophical literature, gender-based language should also be avoided.

